



February 8, 2018

The Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 0828 – Income Tax – Personal Exemptions – Inflation Adjustment – **Support**

Dear Senator Kasemeyer:

Senate Bill 0828 would adjust the personal exemptions on an annual basis based on inflation beginning after December 31, 2018.

Senate Bill 0828 would adjust the standard deduction for taxpayers on an annual basis. The federal tax system already has built in inflation adjustments. The Legislative Committee of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce supports this bill. We believe the bill is a step in the right direction towards fostering a more attractive climate for business and individuals in our state.

The state of Maryland is at a critical juncture as the competition to attract new business and individuals is increasing. We have seen tax and fee increases over the past years. Moreover, the move toward increased regulation has had a negative impact on our business climate. We need to reverse this cycle for the future generations of Marylanders or we continue to lose both residents and businesses and at the same time become unattractive to those who are looking at our state as a place to call home.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 560 members therefore ask that your committee consider the positive long-term benefits of Senate Bill 0828 and give this bill a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Michael McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Justin Ready
Delegate Haven Shoemaker