



## **Millionaires ready to contribute**

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The Sun published an article Thursday claiming that Maryland's temporary tax surcharge on high incomes "appears to be backfiring," meaning that it is driving high-income earners out of the state ("Top payers fade away," May 14). Yet the article cites not a single fact, not even a single example of an actual person who has moved out, to support this incendiary claim.

To imply that high-income Marylanders are leaving the state without any evidence, in the face of legitimate studies that have found little if any such effect in other states, is not just irresponsible.

It can also be seen as slandering the vast majority of high-income Marylanders who, according to poll data, are ready, willing, and able to contribute more toward strengthening our state. This is the group that has received enormous benefits from Bush-era tax policies, and the small portion of that windfall that they are now contributing is being invested in education, health care, infrastructure and other vital public functions that both help us recover from the recession and lay the foundations for future prosperity.

Our state's leading citizens have stepped up to the plate in our hour of need and they should be thanked, not insulted.

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**<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/letters/bal-ed.le.letters151may15,0,7663403.story>**