# Government Support for Higher Education

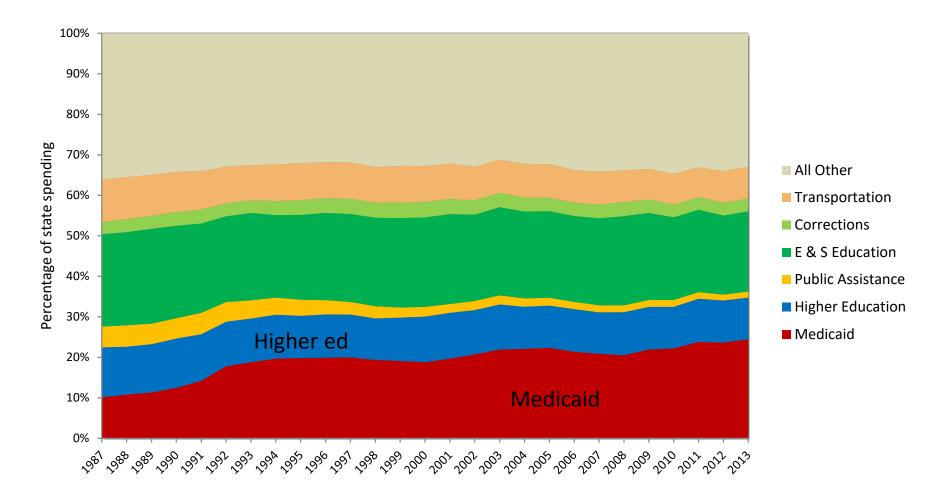
DONALD F. KETTL NOVEMBER 28, 2017

## The crucial choice

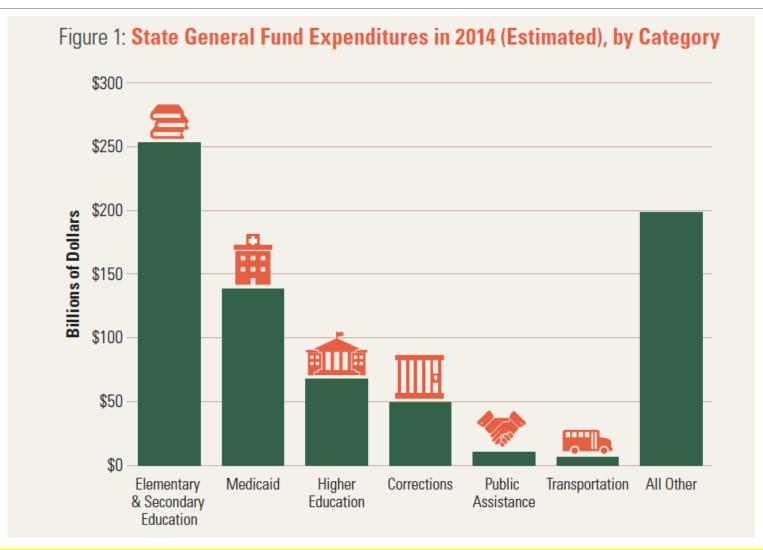
- Reagan's 1982 State of the Union Address proposes an "equal swap"
  - Feds take Medicaid
  - States take food stamps, welfare, AFDC



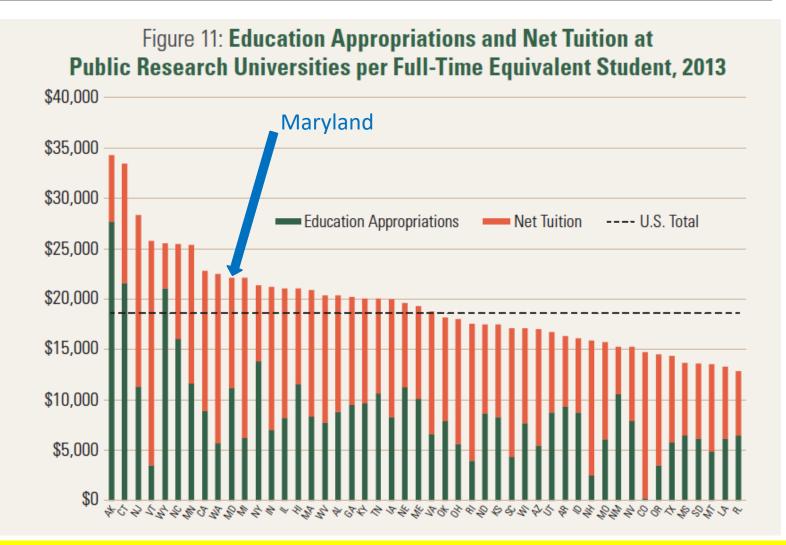
### Medicaid squeezed states since



## Higher ed: #3 in state budgets (including Maryland)

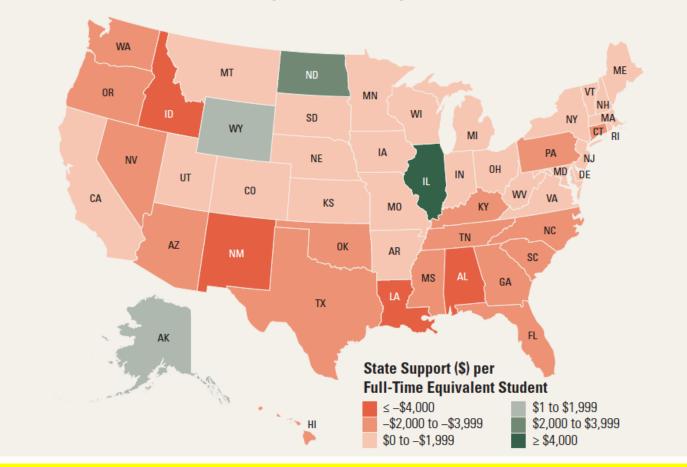


## Maryland among most generous states toward higher ed



### States' support for higher ed shrinking

Figure 6: Change in State Support for Public Higher Education (All Public Colleges and Universities) per Full-Time Equivalent Student, 2008 to 2014



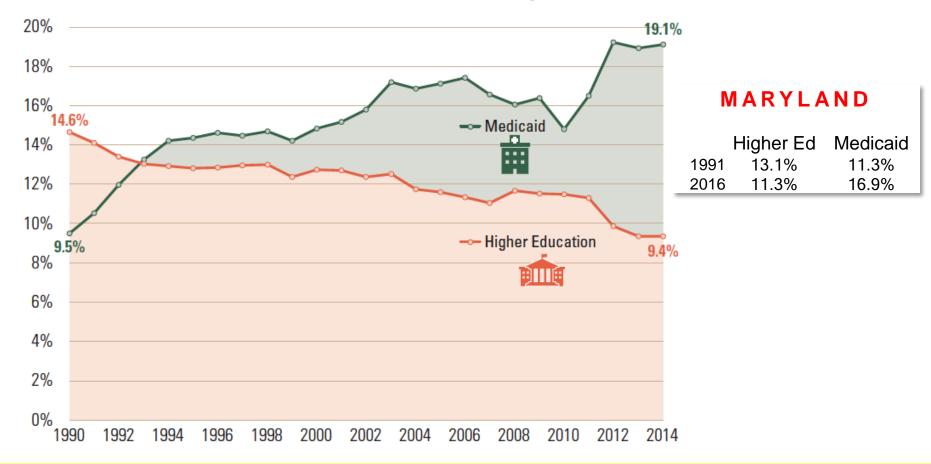
#### State higher ed support down 30% since 2000

Figure 4: Percent Change in State Support for Public Higher Education (All Colleges and Universities) per Full-Time Equivalent Student, in Constant 2014 \$, since 2000

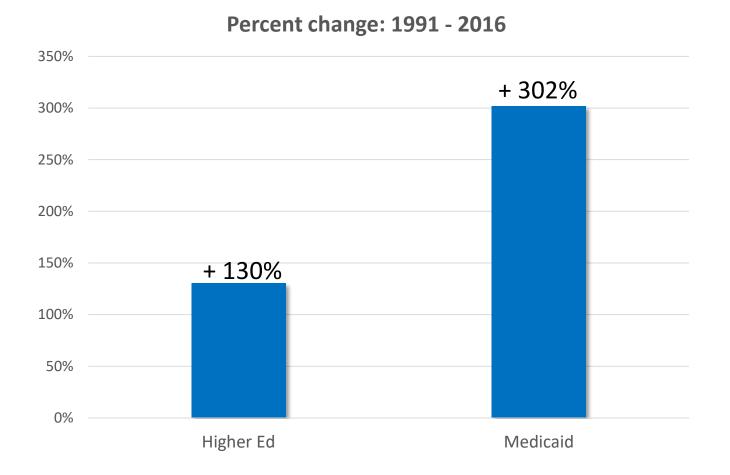


## Medicaid is squeezing higher ed

Figure 5: Higher Education (All Colleges and Universities) and Medicaid as Share of State General Fund Expenditures



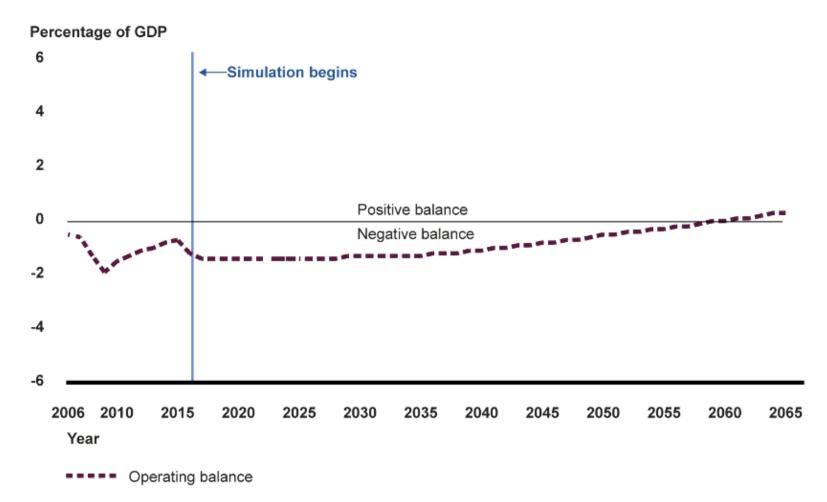
## Maryland: general fund spending



#### Source: NASBO

Slim chance economic growth will provide more support

#### Figure 1: State and Local Operating Balance Measure as a Percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP)



Sources: GAO calculations using Bureau of Economic Analysis data and GAO simulations, updated December 2016. | GAO-17-213SP

#### Pensions add to the squeeze



#### Public employee pension funding ratio by state, 2016 figures

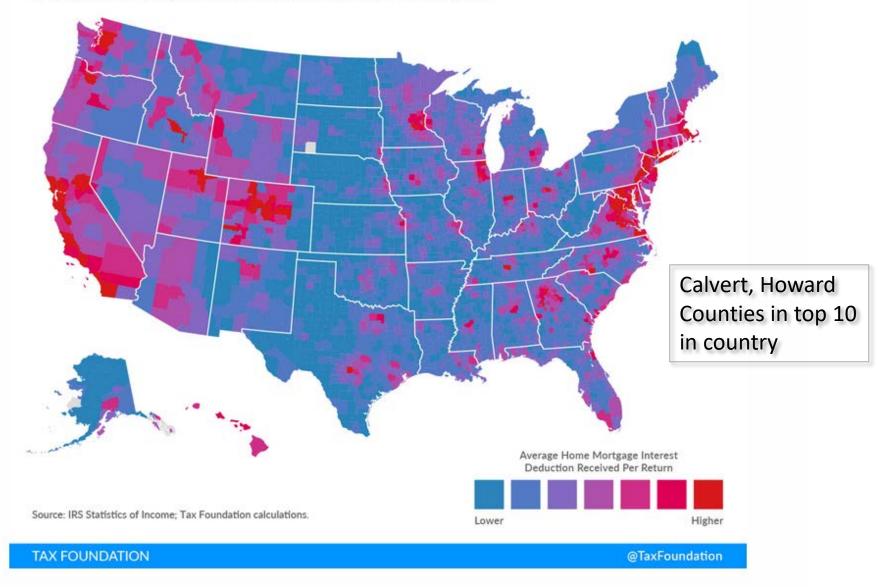
... and Maryland could be significantly affected by tax reform

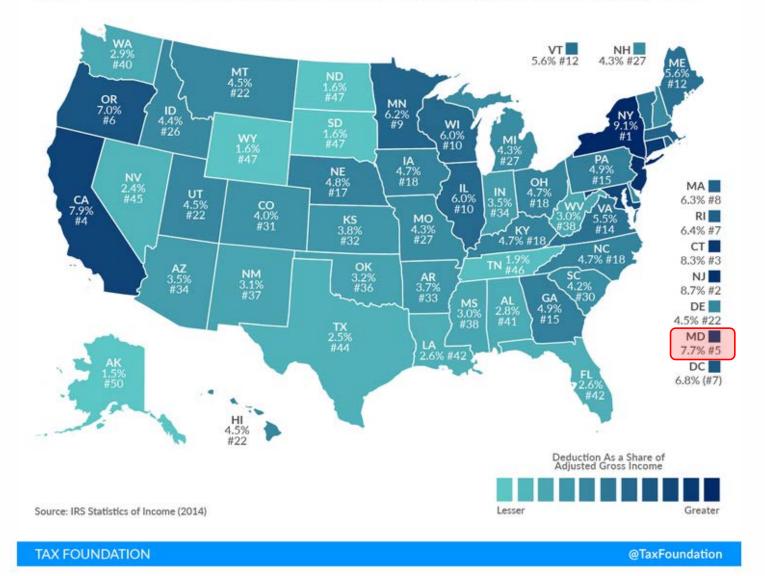
### "Unrelated business income tax"

- •House tax reform bill proposes to include state pension systems in UBIT, now applied to private and nonprofit organizations (\$1.1 billion in revenue needed to fund tax cuts)
- •Could add new costs, administrative burdens to states
- Greatest impact on states with largest unfunded liabilities, since UBIT could eat into investment returns

#### Which Areas Benefit Most From the Home Mortgage Interest Deduction?

Average Home Mortgage Interest Deduction Received Per Return, 2014





#### State & Local Tax Deduction As a Share of Adjusted Gross Income by State

https://taxfoundation.org/state-and-local-tax-deduction-primer/