



February 27, 2017

The Honorable Anne R. Kaiser  
Ways and Means Committee  
Room 131, House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: HB 1331 – Estate Fairness Act - Inheritance Tax Repeal – Support**

Dear Delegate Kaiser:

House Bill 1331 repeals the inheritance tax and provides that the Act applies to decedents dying after December 31, 2016. The Legislative Committee of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce supports this bill. The long term effect of this reduction would, in our opinion, bring increased future tax revenue into the state by encouraging people to retire in Maryland. Only a handful of states have an inheritance tax. Virginia has a no estate or gift tax since 2007 and Delaware eliminated the estate tax in 2013. Our current estate tax structure places Maryland at a major competitive disadvantage.

The state of Maryland is at a critical juncture as the competition to attract new business and individuals is increasing. 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 asks that your committee consider the positive long term benefits of House Bill 1331 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: Delegate Susan W. Krebs  
Senator Justin Ready

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