



January 30, 2017

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

**Re: HB 215 – County Revenues – Business Fees and Personal Property Tax Exemption -
Oppose**

Dear Delegate Kaiser:

House Bill 215 authorizing the governing body of a county to impose a specified fee on business entities that own real or personal property in the county; requiring the Department of Assessments and Taxation to collect and remit the fee revenue to the counties; prohibiting the fee from exceeding specified amounts; requiring a county governing body that imposes a fee to notify the Department on or before July 1 of the year preceding the year in which the fee will be collected; exempting specified personal proper from the specified property tax; etc.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 500 members, vehemently opposes this bill as it potentially places yet another undue tax burden on businesses in our State. This bill opens up possibilities and creates an economic environment that will negatively impact a businesses' ability to compete regionally or nationally with similar entities that do not shoulder this extra tax burden. Such bills also handicap Maryland's ability to complete with our neighboring States when trying to invite new and/or relocating businesses to our counties.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce requests that you give this bill an unfavorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Delegate Susan Krebs
Senator Justin Ready

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