



February 8, 2017

The Honorable Derek E. Davis
Economic Matters Committee
Room 231, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB 589 – Corporations and Real Estate Investment Trusts – Corporate Bylaws and Elections of Directors and Trustees - **Oppose**

Dear Delegate Davis:

House Bill 589 repeals a specified exception to the power of stockholders of a corporation to adopt, amend, or repeal the bylaws. It establishes election procedures of corporate directors in specified circumstances. Also establishing the necessary number of votes that must be cast to elect a trustee of a real estate investment trust. Lastly it establishes election procedures for the trustees of a real estate investment trust under specified circumstances.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 560 members, does not support any bill that provides the redundant definitions spelled out in a private corporation's and REIT's operating agreement and/or by-laws. Such legal documents benefit from being customized by each individual entity and would not be well served by a State law that supersedes such documentation.

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

Carroll County Chamber of Commerce • 9 East Main Street • Westminster, MD 21157
Phone: 410-848-9050 • Fax: 410-876-1023 • www.carrollcountychamber.org