



March 10, 2017

The Honorable Joseph F. Vallario, Jr.  
Judiciary Committee  
Room 101, House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: HB 1459 – Civil Actions – Noneconomic Damages – Oppose**

Dear Delegate Vallario:

House Bill 1459 increases the maximum amount of noneconomic damages that may be recovered in specified wrongful death actions or survival actions arising on or after October 1, 2017. It provides that a jury may be informed of specified limitations on noneconomic damages in specified civil actions.

Increasing the amounts of noneconomic damages and then informing juries of the limitations provided in the law will automatically tend to have said juries gravitate toward the absolute limits of the law, thus increasing the cost of doing business in the State of Maryland, and once again, making Maryland unattractive to businesses looking to relocate from other areas.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 560 members, opposes this bill and asks that you give it 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 W. Krebs  
Senator Justin Ready