



March 3, 2017

The Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 796 – Economic Development – County Economic Development Tax Incentives Program and One Maryland Tax Credit – Oppose

Dear Senator Kasemeyer:

Senate Bill 796 establishes the County Economic Development Tax Incentives Program to encourage businesses to locate and expand in specified counties of the State. It states that after a business is designated as a qualified business, the business is eligible for a specified State property tax exemption, income tax subtraction modification, and sales and use tax exemption. The Bill authorizes a county and municipal corporation to provide a specified exemption from the county and municipal corporation property tax.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 560 members, would support such a bill, if and only if, it would extend to all the counties in the State and not just a select few. Such tax incentives would bolster the competitive attractiveness of Maryland as a new business destination. Instead, this bill limits the program which will translate into limited success in excluding counties and municipalities. Therefore, we oppose such legislation unless it is revised to be a totally inclusive bill.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Justin Ready
Delegate Susan Krebs

**Carroll County Chamber of Commerce • 9 East Main Street • Westminster, MD 21157
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