



January 23, 2018

The Honorable Thomas M. Middleton
Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 0235 – Labor and Employment – Minimum Wage - Indexing - Oppose

Dear Senator Middleton:

Maryland businesses face many challenges to their successful operations. The continued efforts to raise the minimum wage without regard to the worth of the jobs these wages cover, is only one of them. To compound the issue by automatically increasing the minimum wage – possibly every year – is a blow that many small businesses will not be able to sustain. This is another one-size-fits-all approach being applied in an attempt to address social issues.

Our efforts would be much better served by business and government working together to provide and encourage opportunities for people to increase their skills/education and by creating an environment that is conducive to growing and attracting higher paying jobs. Forcing such mandates on the very entities that provide the jobs is counterproductive to the effort to elevate more people into a better standard of living.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 600 members, opposes this bill and therefore requests 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 Haven Shoemaker
Senator Justin Ready