



February 2, 2018

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

Re: HB 0842 – Small Business Fairness Act of 2018 – Oppose

Dear Delegate Davis,

HB 0842 will require certain retail trade and food services corporations to compute Maryland taxable income using a certain method; requiring, subject to regulations, certain groups of retail trade and food services corporations to file a combined income tax return reflecting the aggregate income tax liability of all the members of the group.

HB 0842 will increase taxes significantly on certain Maryland corporations and would discourage multi state corporations from doing business in the state. Retail trade and food services provide many jobs to Maryland residents. There is tremendous pressure on the industry and the threat of higher minimum wage rates will make them rethink locating in the state. The Legislative Committee of the Carroll County Chamber of Commerce opposes this bill. We believe HB 0842 is a step in the wrong direction towards fostering a more attractive climate for business in our state.

The state of Maryland is at a critical juncture as the competition to attract new business and individuals is increasing. Moreover, the move toward increased regulation has had a negative impact on our business climate. We need to reverse this cycle for the future generations of Marylanders or we continue to lose both residents and businesses and at the same time become unattractive to those who are looking at our state as a place to call home.

We therefore ask that your committee consider the negative impact of HB 0842 and 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 Haven Shoemaker
Senator Justin Ready