



Date: January 15, 2025

Delegate Ben Barnes
Room 121
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB 0037 – Declaration of Rights – Right to Organize– Oppose as Written

Dear Delegate Barnes:

HB0037 seeks to add the fundamental right for employees to organize and collectively bargain to Maryland's constitution.

In 1935 the National Labor Relations Act was signed into law granting American employees the right to organize and be represented by a union if they *choose* to do so. It is far past the time when we should also grant American employees the right to choose NOT to be represented by a union they don't feel benefits them, and not force them to financially support that union. Employees should not also have their freedom of speech rights violated by being forced to finance a union's political activity. There are currently 26 states with Right to Work laws.

While we understand the motivation to enshrine the right to organize in Maryland's state constitution, it should also be the case for those who choose not to join or financially support a union.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of nearly 700 members, opposes this bill as written. We therefore request that you give this bill an unfavorable report, unless amended as noted above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike McMullin".

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Delegate Chris Tomlinson
Senator Justin Ready

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