

Date: January 24, 2025

Finance Committee Senator Pamela Beidle 3 East Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: SB 0576**— Mandatory Meetings on Religious or Political Matters - Employee Attendance and Participation (Maryland Worker Freedom Act) – **Oppose as Written** 

## Dear Senator Beidle:

SB0576 would prohibit employers from requiring attendance at meetings regarding religious or political matters. This appears to include membership in labor organizations as "political".

While the Carroll County Chamber would agree that meetings on the subject of religious or political matters should not be foisted upon employees in a mandatory fashion, an employer *should* have a right to express its opinion about the benefits or drawbacks to employees of unionizing or not unionizing the workplace. This should be allowed to ensure that all employees receive that message.

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,

Mike McMullin

President

Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Delegate Chris Tomlinson

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Senator Justin Ready