

marylandnonprofits.org

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## Testimony on House Bill 129 Courts - Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation

## **Position: Favorable**

Maryland Nonprofits is a statewide association of more than 1400 nonprofit organizations and institutions. We urge you to support House Bill 129 to limit meritless lawsuits filed to fpr the purpose of cutting off public opposition and preventing the exercise of First Amendment rights.

This legislation passed the House last year as House Bill 70 with 96 votes, but no action was taken in the Senate.

We urge you to continue the effort to protect weaker defendants, ranging from community groups, to environmental advocates to victims of crime and abuse, from oppressive and intimidating litigation.

Give House Bill 129 a Favorable report.



Maryland Nonprofits' mission is to strengthen organizations and networks for greater quality of life and equity.