



February 23, 2024

The Honorable C.T. Wilson, Chair
House Economic Matters Committee
House Office Building, Room 231
Annapolis, MD 21401

Oppose – HB 747 – Products that Contain Mercury – Fluorescent Lamps - Prohibition

Dear, Chair Wilson and Committee Members:

HB 747 phases out the sale of compact fluorescent light bulbs (lamps) beginning January 1, 2025.

The NAIOP Maryland Chapters representing more than 700 companies involved in all aspects of commercial, industrial, and mixed-use real estate recommend your unfavorable report on HB 747 based on the following considerations:

Although it makes sense from a sustainability point of view to phase out the use of compact fluorescent bulbs and linear fluorescent fixtures, we believe the timelines in the bill are too short.

Member companies are already seeing prices of \$15 / foot to upgrade existing lighting as required by building and energy codes at tenant turnover.

Many small business operators are on their own electric meters and have control over the fixtures and bulbs used in their offices, shops, and other workspaces. We are concerned that the proposed phase-out schedule will exacerbate supply chain problems and trigger price increases by driving the conversion to LED lamps and fixtures into a market that still has little excess capacity.

NAIOP respectfully requests your unfavorable report on HB 747.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Ballentine".

Tom Ballentine, Vice President for Policy
NAIOP Maryland Chapters - *The Association for Commercial Real Estate*

cc: Economic Matters Committee Members
Nick Manis – Manis, Canning Assoc.