

INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF MARYLAND, INC.

DBA BIG I MARYLAND



House Environment & Transportation Committee

House Bill 1227

Position: Oppose

Dear Chairman Korman and the Members of the House Environment & Transportation Committee,

The BIG I MARYLAND ("Big I") is the State's oldest trade association of independent insurance agents. It represents 200 independent agencies, which employ over 2000 people in the state. We represent independent insurance agents and brokers who present consumers with a choice of policy options from a variety of different insurance companies. These small, medium, and large businesses offer a variety of insurance products – including property, casualty, life, health, employee benefit plans, and retirement products.

The Big I oppose HB1227 because the legislation passed last year has created so much confusion that insurance producers are put into a situation where we are not certain how to advise our clients on the appropriate direction to take. This leads to unnecessary exposure to our errors and omissions policies. We need to find a solution to bring clarity back to this situation.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments.

Sincerely,

Brett Lininger, Legislative Counsel

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