



Date; March 7, 2024

To: Ways and Means Committee

From: Michael C. Weisner

Re: HB1515

I am writing in opposition to HB1515. My company is a small business that specializes in property management. Passage of this bill increase the tax burden on real estate companies and their agents, many of which are already struggling financially with the slowdown in the overall real estate market.

The State of Maryland is already a high tax state, one that ranks near the bottom in ratings of Friendliness to Businesses. This bill will negatively affect the business climate for the state, which is detrimental to the long term fiscal outlook of the state.

It also bothers me that this bill was introduce at the last minute. This seems to be intentional. A bill of this importance which affects so many businesses deserves much discussion and review. Filing it at the end of the session appears to be a deliberate tactic to limit debate and public input. This is not the way the Maryland Legislature should work.