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March 7, 2023

RE: Opposition to HB 1515

Dear House Members:

This letter is to urge you not to pass House Bill 1515. The everyday services covered by the bill, including legal services, have never been taxed before and doing so would unjustly and unfairly burden service-related businesses and especially small businesses like our law firm.

This negative impact on business will lead to small business failures, new business ventures not taken and/or an increase in consumer costs to offset or prevent the destructive consequences the passing of this bill would have on business.

While budgeting for education is important, passing this bill would create a regulatory nightmare for Maryland's businesses who provide jobs to Marylanders so that they can live, raise their families and work in our State. Breaking the backs of your Maryland small business owners is not an appropriate solution to the funding issues of the State.

Sincerely,

Nancy Courson Cooke