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Maryland House of Representatives
Ways and Means Committee
90 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Opposition to House Bill 1515

Dear Members of the Committee:

I am a small business owner in Boonsboro, MD. Most of the work I do is service work that would be made taxable under this piece of proposed legislation. I am writing you to oppose this bill. I am actually in disbelief that you would even entertain such a bill with a hearing.


Maryland is losing population. That is no secret. We are not keeping up with other states, and much of it is due to our tax policy. People are not moving to Florida for the weather as is commonly thought. They are moving there to escape confiscatory taxation policies such as this one. Do we want to drive all the high-net-worth people out of the state? This is yet another step in that direction.

Moreover, I cannot believe that a progressive body such as the Maryland House of Representatives would take up such a regressive tax policy. This will hit low income families the hardest. It will suffocate small micro-businesses like mine.

Maryland is not Hawaii, New Mexico, or South Dakota. Those are large, out-of-the-way states where their legislatures can capture that revenue with little or no adverse impact. Maryland is small, surrounded by other choices for businesses and residency. Citizens and business owners can pick up, move across the border and do their business elsewhere. What happens to your revenue stream then? You will lose far more than you expect to get with this legislation.

I would strongly suggest that you look at the current state budget the same way I run my household. Revenue is not increasing as you expected. Your bills are exceeding what you have to pay them. That means you need to cut. Cut the mass transit expansion in Baltimore. Cut the money for the Pimlico Race Track. Cut across the board if you have to. Other states do that without resorting to raising taxes. You should too.

Yours truly,


Teresa W. Klauber
CEO, Cemetery Concierge