



TOWN OF RISING SUN
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Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary

130 Taylor House Office Building
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Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Subject: Opposition to Maryland House Bill 1554

Dear Chair, Atterbeary

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Maryland House Bill 1554, which is currently under consideration by the General Assembly. As Mayor of the Town of Rising Sun I have deep concerns about the potential negative impact this legislation would have on our community and the state.

Imposing a tax on essential services such as payroll, IT support, marketing, and consulting, HB 1554 will increase the cost of doing business in Rising Sun and our state, forcing many companies—especially small businesses—to either absorb unsustainable costs, pass them on to consumers, or reduce their workforce. Many businesses that rely on these services, including startups and nonprofits, will struggle to survive under this additional financial burden.

Furthermore, this tax would create a competitive disadvantage for Maryland businesses, driving them to seek service providers in neighboring states with no such tax. The result would be an exodus of jobs and business investment, harming Maryland's long-term economic outlook. Additionally, this form of taxation risks double taxation as multiple layers of service are taxed in the supply chain, ultimately leading to price hikes across industries.

Maryland's economy will only begin to thrive when businesses can grow, create jobs, and innovate without undue government interference. Rather than imposing harmful taxes, the state should focus on policies that promote economic expansion and job creation. For these reasons, I urge you to oppose HB 1554 and vote against its passage.

Travis Marion

Mayor, Rising Sun