



**DEPARTMENT OF
ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION**

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Michael L. Higgs, Jr., Director

DATE: March 6, 2020

BILL NUMBER: HB 891

COMMITTEE: Economic Matters

BILL TITLE: Foreign Corporations – Resident Agents – State Department of Assessments and Taxation

SDAT POSITION: Support

The State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) supports HB 891, a bill that would allow foreign corporations to designate SDAT as its resident agent for the purpose of conducting business in the State of Maryland.

Maryland law currently allows the department to serve as a resident agent for all foreign entities except for foreign corporations. Foreign corporations are the only foreign entity in the State that is excluded from the use of this designation. Foreign corporations must hire outside firms to act as their resident agent to conduct business in the State of Maryland. There is not a reasonable basis for the State to exclude foreign corporations from this provision. The proposed legislation will create parity among foreign business entities.

For these reasons, we strongly urge a favorable report by the Committee for House Bill 891.

Office of the Director

300 W. Preston St., Room 605, Baltimore, MD 21201

www.dat.maryland.gov

410-767-1184 (phone) 1-800-552-7724 (MD Relay)
410-333-5873 (fax) 1-888-246-5941 (toll free)