



Maryland Municipal League

The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

March 2, 2020

Committee: House Economic Matters

Bill: HB 1216 - Business Regulation - Security Systems - Battery-Charged Fences

Position: Oppose

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes House Bill 1216 which places restrictions on the actions a local government can take as it pertains to the installation of certain battery charged fences.

The League has regularly opposed preemption of local authority through state mandates and portions of this bill include such provisions. Specifically, the bill prevents a local government from requiring a person to obtain any permit outside an alarm system permit in the installation of a battery charged fence. A local government also may not impose any operational or installation requirements on a battery charged fence. These provisions that preempt local authority are opposed by MML.

However, League staff has been working with stakeholders on potential amendments to the bill that may ease the concerns of municipalities. MML opposes the bill as introduced on the grounds that it limits municipal authority to govern its business; but MML will continue to engage in discussion surrounding potential amendments and looks forward to future dialogue.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League opposes HB 1216 and respectfully requests an unfavorable committee report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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