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March 2, 2020

The Honorable Anne R. Kaiser, Chairman
Room 131
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill 1628 - Sales and Use Tax - Rate Reduction and Services - OPPOSED

Dear Chairman Kaiser and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

We are writing in our capacity as the President and President Elect of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors of Maryland (NAIFA MD) to respectfully request an unfavorable report on HB 1628.

NAIFA Maryland is a state trade association representing thousands of insurance agents and financial advisors across the state. We value personal leadership and have held leadership roles in schools, sports & the community. We value the democratic process and actively understand the power of our voice and vote. We are dedicated and determined to create unique solutions that are optimal for each client and we passionately pursue personal and professional excellence.

House Bill 1628 would subject all insurance agents and brokers both in the financial and health insurance industries to the payment of sales tax imposed under this legislation. Furthermore, the specific services subject to the new tax are not identified in the bill.

Because the imposition of a sales tax on these services is an entirely new subject, it should be thoroughly examined before adoption in any form by the Maryland General Assembly. Given the brief time remaining during this year's legislative session, coupled with the many other issues that now require the attention of our legislators, there is simply insufficient time to consider the implications of this bill.

For these reasons, we respectfully request an unfavorable report on House Bill 1628.

Brian Jolles
President (2019-2021)

Michael Case
President Elect (2019- 2021)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Brian Jolles".

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael Case".