

NAIOP

MARYLAND CHAPTERS



THE ASSOCIATION FOR
COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

January 15, 2021

The Honorable Dereck E. Davis
House Economic Matters Committee
Room 231, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Favorable - HB 294 – Architects – Scope of Licensure

Dear, Chair Davis and Committee Members:

The NAIOP Maryland Chapters represent more than 700 companies that develop and own commercial, residential, industrial and mixed-use real estate. On behalf of our member companies, I am writing in support of HB 294 which would increase the maximum cost of projects that can be undertaken before state law requires employment of a licensed architect.

NAIOP believes the raising the maximum project cost is appropriate because the current threshold of \$5,000 has not kept pace with increasing construction costs.

Generally, the nature of the building renovation or repair is a more important factor than project cost for the General Assembly to consider when deciding when to require a licensed design professional. Our support for the bill is based on our reading that the bill does not expand the scope of building elements that require an architect.

For these reasons NAIOP respectfully recommends your favorable report on HB 294.

Sincerely,

Tom Ballentine, Vice President for Policy
NAIOP Maryland Chapters -*The Association for Commercial Real Estate*

cc: House Economic Matters Committee Members
Nick Manis – Manis, Canning Assoc.