

January 19, 2021

The Honorable Dereck Davis  
Chairman, House Economic Matters Committee  
House Office Building, Room 231  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: Support for House Bill 294(Business Occupations and Professions - Architects - Scope of Licensure)**

Dear Chairman Davis:

The Maryland Building Industry Association (MBIA), representing 100,000 employees of the building industry across the State of Maryland, supports House Bill 294 (Business Occupations and Professions – Architects - Scope of Licensure).

This measure allows someone to alter or repair a building without hiring a licensed architect if the project does not exceed \$25,000 in estimated costs. This is an increase from \$5,000. This increase could make a difference to housing affordability; the more professionals required, the higher the cost of the project. That cost gets passed along to the homebuyer. Allowing someone – whether it’s a homeowner, a contractor, a developer, or a builder – to have this work performed without having to hire a licensed architect helps a project’s bottom line and makes it more affordable.

MBIA respectfully requests the Committee give this measure a favorable report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or [lgraf@marylandbuilders.org](mailto:lgraf@marylandbuilders.org).

cc: House Economic Matters Committee Members