

# **HB684 - EHEA MSS FAV**

Uploaded by: Bowers, Bill

Position: FAV



March 15, 2021

**HB 684**  
Professional Land Surveyors - Surveying Practice - Definition  
and Licensing Exception

**Position: Favorable**

Dear Chairman Pinsky and members of EHEA:

My name is Bill Bowers, and I am the legislative chair for the Maryland Society of Surveyors. In 2018 the Board of Professional Land Surveyors appointed a special committee to review the Land Surveyors Practice Act's language. Two licensed board members from the Maryland Board for Professional Land Surveyors, our regulatory Board and two licensed members of the Maryland Society of Surveyors (MSS) comprised the committee. The committee's goal was to take a comprehensive look at our State's definition of surveying and recommend changes.

HB684 reflects the work of the review committee, the MSS Board of Directors, and input from the general membership of the MSS, through town hall meetings with the licensing board, general membership meetings, and discussions at local chapter meetings.

Advancements in drones, 3D scanners, robotics, and Global Navigation Satellite Systems are currently changing the surveying profession's services and applications faster than any time in history. However, the definition of the practice of land surveying in Maryland has not been updated to reflect these ongoing changes.

The primary revision is that references to specific instruments of measure have been eliminated from the regulation to account for advancements in technology that are not available yet. Additionally, the proliferation of topographic data capturing devices has made this type of data collection more readily available to the general population. Therefore, topographic data collected by an entity with certifications deemed acceptable by the licensing board will not need to be a licensed professional land surveyor.

The MSS feels that these changes will modernize the definition of land surveying and will position the surveying profession to account for technological changes in the future.

We respectfully request a favorable report.

Bill Bowers

**MBIA Testimony HB 684.pdf**

Uploaded by: Graf, Lori

Position: FAV

March 16, 2021

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky  
Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building,  
2 West Wing 11 Bladen St.,  
Annapolis, MD, 21401

**RE: HB 684 Professional Land Surveyors - Surveying Practice - Definition and Licensing Exception**

Dear Chairman Pinsky:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 1,100 member firms statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the **HB 684 Professional Land Surveyors - Surveying Practice - Definition and Licensing Exception**. MBIA Supports the Act in its current version.

This bill would alter the definition of land surveying to include using different technologies and methods to create accurate and precise location data. MBIA supports the use of expanded technologies to create land surveys. Allowing the industry to keep pace with expanding technological capacity will ultimately create a more efficient and cost efficient industry. This would also make the findings and data gathered by land surveyors more accessible to the public and allow for greater public scrutiny of topographic data.

For these reasons, 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: Members of the Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee