

Bryson F. Popham, P.A.

Bryson F. Popham, Esq.

191 Main Street
Suite 310
Annapolis, MD 21401

410-268-6871 (Telephone)
443-458-0444 (Facsimile)

www.papalaw.com

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chairman
House Judiciary Committee
Room 101 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: House Bill 508 COVID-19 Claim - Civil Immunity - FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Clippinger and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Building Owners and Managers Association (BOMA), to respectfully request an favorable report on House Bill 508.

BOMA is a professional trade association that represents the best interests of commercial and real estate owners, real estate professionals and our associate members through effective leadership in advocacy, collection and dissemination of industry information, education, community involvement, membership participation, and professional development.

As the Committee is aware, office and other commercial buildings have a steady stream of persons flowing through them: tenants, visitors, persons providing building services, etc. Each of these individuals is a potential claim for COVID 19 exposure. The prospect of successful litigation may be low; however, the cost of defending lawsuits arising from COVID 19 claims would, at a minimum, be substantial. It could be ruinous for the landlord or any entity against whom such claims are brought. HB 508 provides a commonsense, measured, temporary protection against unwarranted litigation. For that reason, BOMA respectfully requests a favorable report on this legislation.

Very truly yours,



Bryson F. Popham

cc: Kevin Bauer
Joan Smith