

February 4, 2022

Maryland General Assembly Senate Budget and Taxation Committee State House Annapolis, MD 21401

Re:

Letter of Support - Written Testimony

SB0403 – Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

Dear Senators,

As a business owner, and person who deals with many other small businesses in this State, I am very pleased that you are considering passage of SB0403 and encourage you to do so.

Eliminating the annual fee of \$300 per entity sends a positive message to the thousands of businesses in this State that are encountering tremendous cost increases on many fronts. It also sends a message to those outside our State that Maryland is open for business.

I encourage the General Assembly to pass this Bill and also look at other ways to make Maryland a more competitive, lower cost, and more business-friendly State. Businesses encounter a tremendous amount of costs through taxes, fees and having to comply with the myriad of regulations from Federal, State, County and Municipal governments. We need all the help we can get.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael H. Gardiner

Partner and Vice President