

Testimony for Upliftology™ re Corporations and Ass

Uploaded by: Adebisi Adebowale

Position: FAV

February 4, 2022

On behalf of Upliftology™ and other Maryland-based businesses, I, Adebisi Adebawale, testify in favor of the Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings bill in conjunction with the Budget and Taxation Committee to eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically. As evident over the past two years because of the global pandemic, operations have moved virtually for most industries making processes more efficient and seamless. This convenience of electronically filing the Annual Report saves time not only for the business owner from having to mail (or in-person submit) and wait for a response to their filings with the State, but also makes the processes for the State more effective and efficient to provide a quick turnaround time to business owners.

Furthermore, and of utmost importance, this fee can be gruesome and a huge burden for many businesses financially, especially those that have yet to bring in steady income, not to mention actually turning a profit. This fee causes many businesses to be delinquent in registering their business for their Annual Report, thus resulting in such businesses not being in compliance with State law for business registration. By eliminating the fee, we position business owners to be empowered to keep dreaming, to keep building, and to keep designing the business they created to change not only their lives but lives of people in their communities by offering their products and services and through the creation of jobs at scale. This in turn helps the economy overall.

I vote in favor of Bill SB403, Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings, to eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a hand-drawn oval. The signature appears to read "Adebawale" with a small mark below it.

Adebisi Adebawale, MSIST
Founder and CEO, Upliftology™

MGA Written Testimony SB403.pdf

Uploaded by: Aliya Baskerville

Position: FAV

Date: February 4, 2022

From: Aliya Y. Baskerville, Business Owner
Harmony Therapeutic Massage, LLC
1047 S. Charles St.
Baltimore, MD 21230
Est. March 2015

To: Maryland General Assembly

**RE: SB403, Corporations and Associations - Annual Reports- Fees for Electronic Filings
Hearing on February 8, 2022**

Hello Members of Maryland's General Assembly,

My name is Aliya Y. Baskerville. I am a Business owner in Baltimore City, in Federal Hill since 2015. Businesses in Maryland incur fees for various licenses and registrations depending on the type of business. The Filing of the Annual State Assessments and Taxation is \$300.00 every year. This is a lot. In addition, businesses also have to pay a higher fee when filing regular yearly Business Income Taxes. On top of that, businesses still have to pay their State and Federal Income Tax once our regular yearly taxes are filed.

Giving Maryland businesses a break and allowing businesses to be able to file for Free Online is a great way to help businesses save money, and have one less fee to pay in the beginning of each year. Maryland businesses, along with businesses in all states, and worldwide have endured a lot due to the pandemic and some are still working to keep their businesses afloat. Since the pandemic a lot of business/transactions are contactless or conducted online. I believe the Maryland General Assembly should pass this legislation SB403 and support the businesses in the State of Maryland to continue to thrive and continue to serve the communities where their businesses reside.

Thank you,
Aliya Y. Baskerville, LMT
Business Owner

SB403WrittenTestimony-AGBehrens.pdf

Uploaded by: Amanda Behrens

Position: FAV



To the Budget and Taxation Committee:

My name is Amanda Behrens, and I am the owner of a small health coaching business, Real Food Store Tours, LLC, d/b/a Get Real with Amanda.

My entrepreneurial journey started at Anne Arundel Community College, as a member of the Ratcliffe Scholars program in the spring of 2016. Since then, I have built my small practice, starting my LLC officially in 2017.

My coaching business is my passion project. As a former student at AACC, I saw how many barriers there were to folks in the entrepreneurship program starting their businesses, and how challenging it could be to bring their own passions into reality.

Whether or not to start an LLC is one of many important decisions a new business owner must make. Keeping it in good standing year to year with a \$300 filing fee can feel overwhelming. That additional cost, among all the other costs of starting one's own business, could hold someone back from taking this major and legally protective first step. While they may initially be able to file to incorporate, that yearly fee to maintain good standing could pull funding away from more impactful investments in their small business.

It is from that mindset, and that framework, that I support SB403.

By removing the annual report filing fee for online filers, we create space for more small businesses to move forward in this important way, to keep their businesses in good standing, and to grow in new ways by utilizing that \$300 to put toward a more meaningful investment in their business.

It would be amazing if Maryland were to truly become the first state in the country to provide a zero-fee option for all businesses for this type of filing.

Please support the passing of SB403.

Thank you for your time.

Best in health,

Amanda

Amanda Behrens
443.675.7325 | <https://getrealwithamanda.com>
Real Food Store Tours, LLC
d/b/a Get Real with Amanda

SB0403 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Amani Ahmed

Position: FAV

I testify that I am in favor of bill SB0403.

Amani S. Ahmed

2/4/2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amani S. Ahmed". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Create a great day!

Amani S. Ahmed, CPA, MST

AGA Group

9470 Annapolis Road, Suite 108

Lanham, MD 20706

Phone (240) 764-5293

Fax (240) 387-6125

E-mail: aahmed@agagroupllc.com

Amy Smith Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Amy Smith

Position: FAV

Amy K. Smith, CPA
HeimLantz CPAs & Advisors LLC
Senate Bill 0403

Thank you for allowing my written testimony in favor of the Senate Bill eliminating annual report filing fees for organizations that file electronically. I am not certain that SB0403 is the actual bill number because when I looked it up, SB0403 appeared to be for education relating to incarcerated individuals. I am in favor of the legislation eliminating annual report filing fees when the annual report and accompanying personal property return (Form 1) are filed electronically because it reflects support for companies doing business in Maryland. Maryland is among the states in the country with the highest income tax rates. Eliminating the \$300 annual filing fee makes it easier to do business in Maryland and comply with annual filing requirements. This is a step in the right direction to show businesses that the State of Maryland supports and appreciates business and wants to help eliminate bureaucratic costs as they are identified. Please pass this bill!

SB0403_Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Aristotle Gazonas

Position: FAV

My name is Aristotle Gazonas and I own Bounce Nation LLC which is a single member LLC. It is a seasonal business which operates mostly between the months of April-November. Passing bill SB0403 would alleviate my tax burden since revenues have usually not caught up with yearly expenditures at the time of filing the annual report on April 15th. I hope the bill passes to help me and other small businesses.

Thank you and have a good day.

Aristotle Gazonas

February 4, 2022

New Form (6).pdf

Uploaded by: Ashley Okoroh

Position: FAV

Good afternoon,
To whom it may concern. I have been facing hardship as a business owner after losing my father Solomon okoroh to gun violence in addition to losing my dearest grandmother this past August. On top of the pandemic struggles it is a lot for one to bare & handle. Please extend grace, it has not been easy to operate but by God's grace we are here. We need help.

Thank you for this opportunity.
God bless.

Ashley okoroh

2022 GBCC SB 403 Filing Fees Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Ashlie Bagwell

Position: FAV



Testimony on behalf of the Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce

*In Support of
SB 403-Corporations and Associations—Annual Reports—Fees for Electronic Filings*

*February 8, 2022
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee*

The Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce (GBCC) was founded in 1926. Since then, the organization has grown to more than 550 businesses located throughout the Greater Bethesda area and beyond. On behalf of these members, we appreciate the opportunity to provide written comments on SB 403—Corporations and Associations—Annual Reports—Fees for Electronic Filings.

Senate Bill 403 would eliminate filing fees for businesses that submit their annual report online with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation, including the \$300 annual filing fee for companies, LLCs and other legal entities, and \$100 for family farms.

The Greater Bethesda Chamber of Commerce has been a consistent supporter of legislative and regulatory policies that improve the business climate and positively impact our economy. That is especially important now as Maryland is focused on an economic recovery post COVID-19 pandemic. Bills like Senate Bill 403 that reduce and/or eliminate fees keep money in the pockets of Maryland businesses, many of whom have faced adversity and uncertainty over the past two years.

For this reason, we would respectfully request a favorable vote on SB 403.

SB403testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Barbara McLendon

Position: FAV

I am writing in favor of SB403. As a small business owner in the state of Maryland, I recognize that this bill would provide much needed financial relief. By offering online filing, the process would be more efficient and cost-effective for businesses and the state. Please accept my written testimony in support of SB403.

Barbara J. McLendon

Barbara J. McLendon
The Hearing Center of Chestertown

SB0403 Support Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Ben Greenstein

Position: FAV

February 4, 2022

To whom it may concern:

I will start by thanking you all for what you do. As somebody who feels strongly towards public service in my personal life I commend each and every one of you for subjecting yourself to the challenges that come along with the territory, especially given today's political environment.

Today I would like to briefly offer my support for SB0403 as a small business owner in favor of the bill. I will start by qualifying my opinion by saying that in general I do not oppose taxation or fees, and I will double down by saying that Maryland's fee structure on small businesses like mine is frankly already quite reasonable and generous. However, I consider myself one of the *lucky ones* in that I have always had success with my ventures such that an annual fee of \$300, for example, or a small fee to start and expedite a new venture has always been paid without a second thought.

Unfortunately not all businesses and business owners are as lucky as me, though. An annual cost of a few hundred dollars here and there is much more impactful to some of my peers in different industries, not just during a normal business cycle but certainly during Covid. Barbers, food businesses, and hospitality vendors who operate on small, tight margins already would surely benefit from the small reductions being proposed in this bill. I and my staff benefited from federal Covid relief programs and I am sure they did too, but we didn't start on equal playing fields to begin with and I write my support today in an attempt to provide more balance.

I will conclude by again stating my support of reducing and eliminating some of the small costs of doing business in the State of Maryland. I have lived here most of my life, I have spent my entire entrepreneurial career in this wonderful state, and as I look towards retirement in a warmer climate I would love to think that during my final months in Maryland many of my colleagues just starting out will have an easier time than those before them, if even just by a small degree.

Thank you and sincerely,

Ben Greenstein

Sb0403 testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Brandon Sears

Position: FAV

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this issue.

Maryland annual report fees are an unnecessary and weirdly high expense compared to other states. This is just one burden stopping people from registering in Maryland. I personally have considered moving to another state as I feel Maryland has a lot of fees and higher taxes than many others.

Small business is essential to Maryland and this is a small but significant step in becoming a better place for us.

It's already expensive to get started and most of us don't even profit the first year or two. This fee is just a slap in the face businesses shouldn't have to deal with.

Thank you and please vote in favor of removing the online annual report filing fee!

Sincerely,
Brandon Sears
CEO / Founder
Scarlet Social LLC
Rockville, MD

SB0403 -- Corporations and Associations – Annual R

Uploaded by: Brian Levine

Position: FAV



**Senate Bill 403 -- *Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings*
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
February 8, 2022
Support**

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC), the voice of business in Metro Maryland, supports Senate Bill 403 -- *Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings*. Senate Bill 403 eliminates filing fees paid by corporations and other business entities to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for electronically-filed annual reports due on or after April 15, 2023.

MCCC seeks to improve Maryland's business climate by finding solutions that lower the cost of doing business and create a more customer-oriented approach in transactions businesses have with the State of Maryland. Senate Bill 403 accomplishes both.

By eliminating fees of annual reports that are filed electronically, Senate Bill 403 makes Maryland's business climate more competitive by lowering business costs. Furthermore, eliminating filing fees for reports that are filed electronically acknowledges that these types of fees are meant to pay for the cost of administering transactions between government and business. Electronic filing of reports should be encouraged because they create efficiencies and reduce administrative costs.

For these reasons, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce supports Senate Bill 403 and respectfully requests a favorable report.

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of our nearly 500 members, advocates for growth in business opportunities, strategic investment in infrastructure, and balanced tax reform to advance Metro Maryland as a regional, national, and global location for business success. Established in 1959, MCCC is an independent non-profit membership organization and a proud Montgomery County Green Certified Business.

*Brian Levine / Vice President of Government Affairs
Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce
51 Monroe Street / Suite 1800
Rockville, Maryland 20850
301-738-0015 / www.mccc.md.com*

SB403 filing fees for electronic filings.pdf

Uploaded by: cailey locklair

Position: FAV

MARYLAND RETAILERS ASSOCIATION

The Voice of Retailing in Maryland



SB403: Corporations and Associations- Annual Reports- Fees for Electronic Filings **February 8, 2022**

Position: Favorable

Background: SB403 eliminates filing fees paid by corporations and other business entities to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for certain annual reports due on or after April 15, 2023, that are filed electronically.

Comments: The Maryland Retailers Association supports efforts to eliminate unnecessary fees and lower the cost of doing business in Maryland. There are many factors that contribute to what are considered “business friendly” states such as regional policy, tax codes, infrastructure reliability, availability of skilled workers, and operation costs. Any costs that can be eliminated from overhead are appreciated and helpful.

With these comments in mind, we urge a favorable report.

Favorable SB0403CamillaLewis.pdf

Uploaded by: Camilla Lewis

Position: FAV

Camilla Lewis
414 Glenburn Avenue
Cambridge, MD 21613

Simon Babycat LLC
State of MD Small Business owner
Hearing date: Tuesday, 2/8/22 2:30 p.m.

To the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

I am in favor of supporting the SB0403 for the State of Maryland.
I feel it would considerably be helpful for small business owners such as myself, and I welcome the removal of the annual fee.

Please use this as my formal written testimony in favor of this bill.
Please contact me if you need any further details.

Thank you for your time,
Camilla Lewis

Small Business.pdf

Uploaded by: Charity Delts

Position: FAV

SB 403
Maryland Senate Bill
Electronic Filing Fees for Corporations and Associations

My name is Charity Delts.

I am a new small business owner in Montgomery County, Maryland. I have always had a passion to create. After working 20 years in Customer Service, Human Services and Property Management; I officially started Chari Designs; a home-based Yard Card Greeting Rental and personalized laser cut wooden and acrylic gift business in August 2020. I used my savings to fund my dream of business ownership. Everyday has been a challenge to balance life and business ownership especially financially. I am managing to stay afloat while participating in local events and Makers Markets. I eagerly apply for grant offers however I am just staying afloat. I am aware that this is not sustainable long-term. I will not give up on my dream. Business owners need support of State and all assistance to continue to profit, survive, help community and be successful.

I am in favor of SB 403

The pandemic has especially been a challenge for many businesses small and large. Eliminating electronic filing fees would relieve businesses like mine of additional monetary burden. To echo; SDAT Director, Michael Higgs: "This forward thinking, pro-business legislation would give Maryland yet another competitive edge over neighboring states with lower fee structures". This would be a small step to help to assist small businesses with BIG Dreams.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Best,

Chari 

Chari Designs

[Https://www.Chari-Designs.com](https://www.Chari-Designs.com)

SB 403.pdf

Uploaded by: David Patterson

Position: FAV

Goodloe Transportation
P.O. Box G
Kensington, Maryland 20895
Phone (240) 242 - 3664 Fax (240) 242 - 3926
www.goodloe-transportation.com

February 4, 2022

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Annapolis, Maryland

Dear Committee Members,

We are writing in support of SB 403 - Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings – a bill that will eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically. This bill will add value to the existing Maryland business community and provide incentives for those businesses to remain in the State and attract future new businesses to the State.

Respectfully,

David A. Patterson

David A. Patterson
President & CEO

SB403.pdf

Uploaded by: Debbie Pyles

Position: FAV

**H. M. JAMES & SON
INCORPORATED**

12332 Somerset Avenue
P.O. Box 520
Princess Anne, MD 21853

(410) 651-0505
(800) 287-9177
(410) 651-9289 FAX

**CHAMBERLIN
INSURANCE AGENCY**

12332 Somerset Avenue
P.O. Box 519
Princess Anne, MD 21853

(410) 651-0505
(800) 287-9177
FAX (410) 651-9289

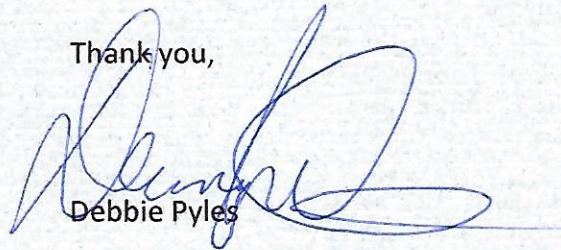
February 4, 2022

Maryland General Assembly

RE: SB 403

As a business owner in the State of Maryland, I am in favor of SB 403.

Thank you,



Debbie Pyles

SB403 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Denise Dixon

Position: FAV

I, Denise Dixon, owner of 2 Maryland-based LLCs. DoME LLC and Juice Dome LLC. I am in favor of the following legislation:

[SB403](#), Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filing

- **Makes Maryland the first state in the country to provide a zero-fee option for all businesses for this type of filing**, which is required to be submitted every year with the [Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation](#) (SDAT) via the award-winning website [Maryland Business Express](#).
- **Amends Maryland's annual report fee structure to be among the most competitive in the nation**, and incentivizes online filing, which is a more efficient and cost-effective filing method for businesses and the state.
- **Brings much-needed relief to Maryland's small business community**, which continues to grow by historic numbers since the onset of the pandemic.

Denise Dixon

301-257-5098

mbe-testimony-the-estate.pdf

Uploaded by: Denzel Ketter

Position: FAV

Testimony in support of Bill ---

My name is Denzel Ketter and I represent a registered LLC in Maryland, known as The Estate Entertainment. I am here today to voice my/our strong support for Bill SB403.

Bill SB403 is important because it provides an urgent relief to the status of small businesses in the state of Maryland. This bill will give businesses an opportunity to file their taxes successfully without any penalties. Smaller businesses can also use these funds that are accounted for fees towards other endeavors such as repairs, equipment, staffing, and etc.

In support of this bill, I can personally share my recent experience I had with difficulty paying the annual filing fee. In December 2021, I was required to pay filing fees in the amount of \$600 for the previous two years. Failure to pay this amount would have resulted in forfeiture of my business. I had to take out personal finances to meet this requirement, which became detrimental to other monthly expenses I have. A zero-fee option would significantly resolve this issue in the future for myself and other small businesses owners in Maryland.

I/ we applaud the President and the Senate for their wisdom in authoring this legislation.

I respectfully urge you and the members of this committee to support this very important legislation.

Thank you.

SB403 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Derrick Wilson

Position: FAV



February 04, 2022

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide my written testimony regarding bill SB403.

My name Derrick A. Wilson and I am the president of Wilson Technologies. I am submitting this written testimony in favor of SB403, Corporations and Association – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings, a bill that will eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically.

Sincerely,

Derrick A. Wilson

Clinkscale SB403.pdf

Uploaded by: DeTonda Clinkscale

Position: FAV

My name is DeTonda Clinkscale and I own and operate a Jazzercise fitness business in Bowie, MD. Covid 19 TANKED my business. I had to close our physical location and lost over half of our membership. I was only 6 months into business ownership when the March 2020 shut down occurred. Fast forward almost two years: we are still required to wear masks while working out indoors (which I am not opposed to due to Covid cases in our county), however, my small business is down thousands of dollars a month with no immediate growth in sight.

This business is my heart's passion. Please help me to save it. Cutting expenses like tax fees will certainly help.

Respectfully,
DeTonda Clinkscale

SB0403.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Director Michael Higgs

Position: FAV

LARRY HOGAN
Governor

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD
Lt. Governor



MICHAEL HIGGS
Director

CORBETT WEBB
Deputy Director

301 W. Preston Street, Room 801, Baltimore, Maryland 21201
Legislative Director: Jonathan.Glaser@Maryland.gov
1-888-246-5941 TTY: 1-800-735-2258
www.dat.maryland.gov

HEARING DATE: February 8, 2022

BILL: SB0403

TITLE: Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

SDAT POSITION: SUPPORT

Pursuant to HB0356 of the 2021 Legislative Session of the Maryland General Assembly, which was enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution on May 30, 2021, the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) was tasked to study and review fees collected by all 50 states and the District of Columbia that are equivalent or substantially similar to the Annual Report filing fees collected by SDAT under the authority of § 1-203(b)(3)(ii) of the Corporations and Associations Article.

SDAT was also tasked to provide the General Assembly, pursuant to §2-1257 of the State Government Article, recommendations to make Maryland's Annual Report filing fee more competitive with the similar fees collected by other states.

As written, Senate Bill 403 complies with SDAT's study findings and recommendations to the General Assembly on how best to amend the Maryland Annual Report fees to make Maryland more business-friendly and competitive with its regional neighbors.

This bill ensures that all business entities that file electronically will not pay an annual report fee, and encourages the use of electronic filing over more inefficient paper filings.

For these reasons, SDAT offers this Letter of Support and strongly urges a favorable report for SB0403.

Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: George Petrov

Position: FAV

G PETROV & ASSOCIATES, LLC
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
AND
BUSINESS ADVISORS
8630 FENTON STREET, SUITE 600
SILVER SPRING, MD 20910
WWW.PETROVMYCPA.COM

February 4, 2022

TESTIMONY – TAX RELIEF FOR MARYLAND BUSINESSES

I would like to testify in full support of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee Bill SB403, Corporations and Associations- Annual Reports- Fees for Electronic Filings. a bill that will eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically.

As a business owner and as a CPA assisting various businesses, I believe this is a forward thinking, pro-business legislation.

I fully support the Bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "G. Petrov", written over a horizontal line.

George Petrov, CPA, CFP
Business Owner

SB403 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Gregory Skolnik

Position: FAV



SB403 TESTIMONY:

February 8, 2022 – 2:30p.m. Virtual

2/4/22

Hello,

My name is Greg Skolnik and I am the owner and founder of Motor Works, Inc., a small business located in Rockville, Maryland. We have been in continuous operation since late 1979 and incorporated in 1982.

I never quite understood why we needed to pay (currently) \$300 annually to file a tax return that we will be paying taxes on. I certainly don't have to do this with the Federal returns. I have attached a PDF report going back to 1991 (when our current software was started) showing that we have paid to the State a total of \$6,400.00 in fees only over this period. Those fees could have been used to grow our business, purchase additional equipment, help train employees or even supplement other employee benefits such as health insurance.

I am in favor of the adoption of this bill, removing these fees for future submissions. If you have any questions, please contact me. I can be reached at 240-997-4950.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Gregory A. Skolnik

Owner, Motor Works, Inc.

GS/ Attachment: SDAT FEES

Last saved on: 02/04/22 2:34 PM

SDAT FEES.pdf

Uploaded by: Gregory Skolnik

Position: FAV

2:06 PM

02/04/22

Accrual Basis

Motor Works, Inc.

SDAT FEES

All Transactions

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Amount
7710 · Tax						
7715 · Tax Property						
General Journal	04/30/1993	7.66		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	03/31/1994	7.77		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	05/31/1995	7.91		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	04/30/1997	7.114		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	07/31/1998	7.129		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	07/31/1999	7.141		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	06/30/2000	7.152		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	07/31/2001	7.165		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	04/30/2002	7.174		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	04/30/2003	7.186		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		100.00
General Journal	03/31/2004	7.197		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		300.00
General Journal	03/31/2005	7.209		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		300.00
General Journal	03/31/2006	7.221		Transactions created by using the cleanup process.		300.00
Check	06/07/2007	14632	State Department of Assessments and Taxat	2007 Maryland Pers Prop return	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	06/16/2008	14706	State Department of Assessments and Taxat	2007 Maryland Pers Prop return	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	03/27/2009	14772	State Department of Assessments and Taxat	2009 Form 1 / D01363407 Pers Prop Rtrn	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	06/15/2010	14873	Department of Assessments and Taxation	MD PP Return	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	08/28/2011	15007	Department of Assessments and Taxation	MD PP Return	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	04/05/2012	15076	Department of Assessments and Taxation	MD PP Return Filing Fee	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	04/16/2013	15191	State Department of Assessments and Taxat	2012 Form 1 / D01363407 Pers Prop Rtrn	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	06/04/2014	15336	Department of Assessments and Taxation	MD PP Return Filing Fee	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	06/15/2015	15486	State Department of Assessments and Taxat	Form 1 / D01363407 Pers Prop Rtrn	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	06/09/2016	15604	Department of Assessments and Taxation	MD PP Return Filing Fee	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	06/12/2017	15718	Department of Assessments and Taxation	D01363407	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	06/14/2018	15815	Department of Assessments and Taxation		1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Check	06/10/2019	15910	Department of Assessments and Taxation	D01363407	1000 · Checking 5...	300.00
Credit Card Charge	07/15/2020		Department of Assessments and Taxation	Filing fee and elec payment fee for 2020 Personal Property Ret...	2055 · Greg's CC ...	300.00
Credit Card Charge	06/11/2021		Department of Assessments and Taxation	Filing fee for 2021 Personal Property Tax Return	2055 · Greg's CC ...	300.00
Total 7715 · Tax Property						6,400.00
Total 7710 · Tax						6,400.00
TOTAL						6,400.00

SB0403.pdf

Uploaded by: Jacob Therres

Position: FAV



JT CONSTRUCTION COMPANY LLC

MHIC #146817

Jacob Therres
2400 Rochelle Drive
Fallston, MD 21047
410-776-9715

2/4/2022

SB0403 Written Testimony

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you on behalf of SB0403 – Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings. I received notification that the State of Maryland is graciously waiving the filing fee. I am in favor of this legislation and would like to receive the benefits of this bill. To further explain, I am a small business home improvement contractor who has recently fell behind in finances due to the pandemic. As the omicron variant has emerged and the winter time has taken its toll, my business is slowing. I praise Maryland Business Express and our leadership for the job they do since the beginning of my business in 2020. I have been in Good Standings since I received my articles of organization and would kindly ask for my filing fee to be relinquished for this upcoming report. I cannot express my gratitude enough.

Thank you for your time, with best regards,

Jacob Therres

SB403 written response in favor.pdf

Uploaded by: Jamiea Samuels

Position: FAV

I am in favor of eliminating any fees associated with online filing for business who submit their annual report electronically.

SB403- Corporations and Associations - Annual Repo

Uploaded by: Jane Redicker

Position: FAV



OUR MISSION:

Working to enhance the economic prosperity of greater Silver Spring through robust promotion of our member businesses and unrelenting advocacy on their behalf.

SB403 – Corporations and Associations - Annual Reports - Fees for Electronic Filings

Budget and Taxation Committee

February 8, 2022

FAVORABLE

On behalf of the Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce, representing 400 member organizations, including very small businesses with fewer than ten employees and several nonprofits, in the greater Silver Spring area of Montgomery County, I write to express our support for SB403 – Corporations and Associations - Annual Reports - Fees for Electronic Filings.

Over the past two years, the COVID-19 pandemic affected the lives of our members in unprecedented ways. We appreciate the many State programs that provided financial assistance to help businesses through these difficult times, but many businesses and employers have still not recovered.

While the \$300 fees may seem small to many legislators, that amount means a lot to struggling small businesses and nonprofits.

For these reasons, the Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE committee report on SB403.**

Jane Redicker

President & CEO

Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce

8601 Georgia Avenue #203

Silver Spring, MD 20910

Office: (301) 565-3777

Mobile: (301) 466-8997

www.gsscc.org

SB403 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Jeffrey Walsh

Position: FAV

My name is Jeffrey Walsh and I am a co-owner of Bircham Realty Holdings, LLC. I am writing in favor of bill SB403 which will eliminate the filing fee for business that submit their annual reports electronically. My business has no personal property assets yet I have been forced to pay a filing fee every year just to say as much. This two page document can't possibly cost \$300 to process so the filing fee essentially amounts to an additional tax on my business. Eliminating the fee for electronic filers is a step in the right direction towards making Maryland a better place to run a small business.

SB403 2 4 2022 JRhodes .pdf

Uploaded by: Jenny Rhodes

Position: FAV

February 4, 2022

Jennifer L Rhodes
Deerfield Farms LLC
164 Deerfield Farm Lane
Centreville, MD 21617

RE: SB 403 Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for
Electronic Filings

Good afternoon:

I am Jenny Rhodes, a 10th generation farmer in Queen Anne's County. I farm with my two sons who also have their own farming operations. We are chicken and grain farmers. We all have business structures (LLC's) for our farming operations. I fully support SB403. This would result in a much-needed relief, not only for farmers but the many small businesses in Maryland. This also gives an incentive for online filing that is cost effective for everyone.

Thank you for your time,

Jenny Rhodes

Testimony in Favor of SB403.pdf

Uploaded by: Julie Verratti

Position: FAV

Testimony in Favor of SB403 – Julie Verratti, Founder Denizens Brewing Co.

My name is Julie Verratti and I have owned and operated a Maryland small business called Denizens Brewing Co. since 2013. I am strongly in favor of getting rid of the \$300 fee that we are required to pay every year simply because we exist. It is not just the fee but also the paperwork involved that takes too much time. Small businesses are generally undercapitalized compared to their larger counterparts, which requires debt financing. Banks sometimes require businesses to create holding companies, which is what we had to do in 2018. I have had to pay \$300 a year for three different LLCs since 2018 only because our bank required us to create two holding companies when we took out an expansion loan. Getting rid of this filing fee will be a step towards leveling the playing field for small businesses like ours across the state of Maryland. This is also a timely bill considering that small businesses are still not past the economic damage created by the COVID-19 pandemic. For these reasons I ask that you vote in support of this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

SB403 -Corporations and Associations Annual Repor

Uploaded by: Justin Hayes

Position: FAV



Peter Franchot
Comptroller

TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT

Support - Senate Bill 403 - Corporations and Associations - Annual Reports - Fees for Electronic Filings

Budget and Tax Committee

February 8, 2022

Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chairman Rosapepe and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in **support** of **Senate Bill 403 - Corporations and Associations - Annual Reports - Fees for Electronic Filings**. I would like to thank the Senate President for sponsoring this important legislation on behalf of the Administration, and the Committee for providing the opportunity for my testimony to be heard.

Businesses registered in Maryland are required to file an Annual Report with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT). Senate Bill 403 eliminates annual filing fees that all business entities are required to pay to maintain their "Good Standing" status with the state that allows them to operate. Maryland currently has one of the highest fees for business filings compared to our neighboring states at \$300 for companies, LLCs, and other entities.

Throughout my tenure as Comptroller, our agency has continually pursued different strategies to encourage businesses to develop and thrive. Additionally, businesses, particularly small and medium-sized entities, have faced numerous financial difficulties over the last several years. We are all committed to attracting and retaining businesses to our great state, and the elimination of the filing fee is a small but meaningful way to provide support to Maryland businesses who file electronically - which provides cost savings and operational efficiencies for SDAT.

Senate Bill 403 would provide relief to businesses and encourage electronic filing. For the reasons above I respectfully request a favorable report for Senate Bill 403. Thank you for your time and consideration on this bipartisan initiative.

###

Letterhead - (Written) SB 403 - Corporations and A

Uploaded by: Kaitlin Marsden Sweetin

Position: FAV



LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

STATE HOUSE
100 STATE CIRCLE
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401-1925
410-974-3901
TOLL FREE 1-800-811-8336

TTY USERS CALL VIA MD RELAY

Senate Bill 403 - Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee February 8, 2022

**Kaitlin Marsden Sweetin, Deputy Legislative Officer, Office of the Governor
Corbett D. Webb, Deputy Director, Department of Assessments and Taxation**

Chair Guzzone, Vice-Chair Rosapepe, Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

The Governor asks for your favorable report on Senate Bill 403 - Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings. Senate Bill 403 would bring much needed financial relief to our hard-working Maryland employers by eliminating the Annual Report filing fees that all business entities are required to pay to maintain their Good Standing status in the state, if they file electronically. This legislation would make Maryland the first state in the country to provide a zero-fee option for all businesses for this type of filing.

All business entities formed, qualified, or registered to do business in Maryland are required to file an Annual Report with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) every year. If an entity does not file this report, they will face forfeiture and may not be able to continue to legally conduct business in the state. The current Annual Report filing fee for domestic (Maryland chartered) entities and foreign (chartered outside of Maryland) entities, including stock corporations, limited liability companies (LLCs), and most other entities is \$300. The fee for a Maryland family farm is \$100. The filing fee is due each year by April 15 with the required Annual Report and, if applicable to the reporting entity, a Business Personal Property return. Senate Bill 403 would eliminate these filing fees if the entity chooses to file electronically.

Currently, Maryland charges one of the highest fees for Annual Reports in the region for an entity to do business in this state:

- Delaware:
 - \$300 for all domestic and foreign LLCs
 - \$125 for all foreign stock and nonstock corporations
 - \$50 for all domestic corporations
 - \$25 for all domestic nonstock corporations
- New Jersey:
 - \$75 for all for-profits
 - \$30 for all nonprofits

- Pennsylvania:
 - \$70 decennial fee
- Virginia:
 - \$50 for all domestic and foreign LLCs
 - \$25 for all domestic and foreign nonstock corporations
 - \$100 with increases of \$30 for every 5,000 shares the corporation has issued above the first 5,000 shares for domestic and foreign stock corporations
- Washington D.C :
 - \$300 biennial fee to all domestic and foreign stock corporations and LLCs
 - \$80 for all nonstock corporations
- West Virginia:
 - \$25 for all corporations and LLCs

Removing this fee for electronic filers would promote an entrepreneurial climate and provide Maryland with a competitive advantage over neighboring states.

Nationally, while it is difficult to provide conclusive averages of the fees different states have imposed because some states maintain unique criteria for calculating the fee, the rough averages for states that charge fees are:

- \$24 for domestic nonstock corporations
- \$27 for foreign nonstock corporations
- \$62 for domestic stock corporations
- \$83 for foreign stock corporations
- \$88 for domestic LLCs
- \$103 for foreign LLCs

Not only will this legislation result in \$300 cost savings that small businesses and entrepreneurs can invest back into their thriving businesses, but promoting electronic filing will mitigate the many unexpected frustrations customers experience when filing by paper. SDAT continues to experience mail delays, with documents sometimes received weeks or months after they are postmarked. Missing or improperly filled out Annual Reports require the Department to mail them back to the customer for a correction, and improperly completed checks place the business into “not in Good Standing” status. By incentivizing businesses to file electronically with a no-cost option, the Department will also benefit from a streamlined process.

For these reasons, the Administration respectfully requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 403.

Testimony in favor of SB403_ Tax Relief for Maryla

Uploaded by: Karen Allanach

Position: FAV

Testimony in favor of SB403: Tax Relief for Maryland Businesses

Good day. My name is Karen Allanach, and I am the owner of a small business, Palms & Peaks Travel, LLC. I am a fairly new business, and was building clientele and slowly making financial progress when the pandemic hit in 2020.

I lost thousands of dollars in commissions in 2020. I did not make any money from my travel business in 2021. With the state of travel still tumultuous, it has been difficult to decide whether to shutter the business or try to make it through this hard time.

Keeping a business open involves operational expenses including technology, insurance, banking and more. The yearly filing fee has been a hard burden each year, especially in proportion to the lack of income.

It is very hard for a new business to get going and become profitable. I would welcome the relief of the elimination of the filing fee, which also sends a message that the government wants small businesses to survive and thrive.

Please vote yes for SB403 and help small business owners like myself continue to stay in business to support local communities and our local economy.

Most sincerely,

Karen L. Allanach
Palms & Peaks Travel
karen@palmsandpeaks.com
301-442-6658
www.palmsandpeaks.com

2022-02-SB403.pdf

Uploaded by: Karen Druffel

Position: FAV



DRUFFEL CONSULTING, LLC

A Women-Owned Small Business

7140 Collingwood Ct
Elkridge, MD 21075
Ph: 410-917-6857

February 5, 2022

State of Maryland

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

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

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am delighted to write this letter in support of SB403, Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings, a bill that will eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically.

I am a small business entrepreneur that lives in Maryland and the elimination of the filing fee for small businesses would help us financially get started and operate especially in the years it takes to get a new business off the ground and running.

I also have some small side businesses that bring in only a little bit of income for me, but benefit our community. Eliminating the \$300 annual fee would be a huge help and would encourage me to continue starting and operation businesses in Maryland.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Karen Druffel, PMP
kdruffel@druffelconsulting.com
Cell: 410-917-6857

Encouraging Words LLC - KP.McNair 2.4.22 - MyMGA.p

Uploaded by: Karen McNair

Position: FAV



ENCOURAGING WORDS, LLC
SUPPORT - HOPE

2/4/22

Encouraging Words, LLC.
%: Karen P. McNair
12203 Fletchertown Road
Bowie, MD 20720

To Whom It May Concern:

I pray that you're having a good day thus far. Although just now able to respond to the message sent this afternoon, I decided to submit this written testimony just the same. I am in favor of this legislation. The pandemic has brought new financial challenges for me and my business. The legislation would tremendously help relieve me of financial challenges I'm now experiencing.

Thank you so much.
Have a great afternoon and stay safe.

Sincerely,

Karen P. McNair, DSL

ACQ-Bus. Tax Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Karen Metchis

Position: FAV

February 4, 2022
SB403/HB409

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I am writing to support SB403/HB409 *“FOR the purpose of eliminating filing fees paid by corporations and other business entities to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for certain annual reports filed electronically; and generally relating to business entity filing fees.”*

As a recent retiree from the federal government, I started a one person LLC in late 2019 for the purpose of continuing to use my knowledge for public benefit. I work at my home, using my home computer. I have no employees, no business property, and my average earnings (before taxes) averages to less than \$25,000 and will likely diminish in the coming year. Yet, every year, I must pay \$300 to file a report electronically that says I don't have business property.

Given my limited income and my one-person operation, this seems inordinately high. In this electronic age, I keep wondering why. It does not take \$300 worth of a person's time to review filings such as mine. I could see, maybe, \$50 to cover state costs. However, if Maryland truly wants to support small businesses, especially woman owned or minority businesses, it is logical to eliminate this fee altogether.

Therefore, please support passage of SB403/HB409.

Thank you.

Karen Metchis
ACQ Consulting, LLC
4632 South Chelsea Lane
Bethesda, MD. 20814

SB403 Favorable Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Kat Hajduk

Position: FAV

February 4, 2022

Re: SB403 Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

To Whom It May Concern,

I am a Sole Proprietor registered with the State of Maryland as an LLC business since 2017.

Sassy Suburban Interior Design, LLC
Dept ID: W18519975

The Annual Report Fee has been an excessive fee for such a small business as myself. I bring in less than \$10k in sales per year and after paying for taxes, fees, and business overhead I only have a few thousand left at the end of the year which I must save for paying taxes and preparing to pay my bills again next year. If I am ever going to be able to grow as a business I need to reduce my costs anywhere I can. Please vote in favor of eliminating the \$300 filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Hajduk
Sassy Suburban Interior Design

testimony MD House favor of SB0403.pdf

Uploaded by: Kevin Granger

Position: FAV

Enterprise Dental Care

1211 Enterprise Rd
Mitchellville MD 20721

301-249-3333

February 7, 2022

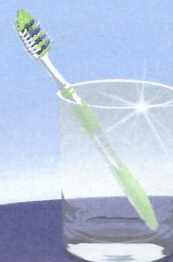
In reference to Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings SB0403, we are in full support of this bill as it provides incentive to do business in Maryland. I have a professional license in multiple surrounding states with less than desirable fee structures and have chosen to place my corporate entity in this state.

I encourage you to vote in favor of the bill supporting removal of annual report fees.

Regards,



Dr. KC Granger



Annual Report Filing testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Khadijah Bamba

Position: FAV

Khadijah Bamba
February 4, 2022
Annual Report Fees for Electronic Filing Testimony

Hello,

I am writing a testimony for Le Décor by Sister Khaijah LLC. These past recent years my business has struggled tremendously. Which then made it difficult to file my annual reports when I could barely maintain the maintenance. I am signing up for TAX RELIEF FOR MARYLAND BUSINESSES.

Kind regards,
Khadijah Bamba

testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Kimberly Colbert

Position: FAV

My name is Kimberly Colbert and I have had a business registered in MD since 2017. I have two more businesses in development but have not registered them because of the cost and COVID. I have two friends who moved to Arkansas and have been able to start multiple businesses because of the low-cost relative to Maryland. I have been seriously considering making the same move to a more business friendly state. If SB0403 is passed I would move forward with starting my new businesses here in Maryland.

Kimberly Colbert

CEO Light Apparel LLC

Lightapparellc@gmail.com

Annual Report Fee Removal Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Kristin Unger

Position: FAV

To: Maryland Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

From: Kristin M. Unger, CPA
Crimson Tide Tax LLC
3633 Fox Meadow Ct
Jarrettsville, MD 21084

Re: SB403
Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on the proposed bill that would eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically. My name is Kristin Unger and I live in Jarrettsville, Maryland. I am a licensed CPA in the state of Maryland. Today I will briefly share my reasoning for supporting this bill.

In addition to being a licensed CPA who helps small business clients file their Annual Reports, I am also a small business owner. I started Crimson Tide Tax LLC in 2021 in hopes of assisting taxpayers in Maryland. As a startup business in its early stage, the hefty \$300 annual filing fee paid simply to stay in business has been a tough pill to swallow. In today's climate during COVID-19 and low market conditions, many honest, hard-working small business owners in Maryland are hurt by paying the yearly filing fee.

In conclusion, if this bill is passed, most importantly, small business owners in Maryland will be provided relief and the opportunity to continue and grow their businesses. Maryland also has the opportunity to be the first state in the country to provide a zero-fee option for all businesses for this type of filing and set the stage for other states to follow suit. I urge you to support this bill and stand behind the growing small business community in Maryland. Thank you.

Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – F

Uploaded by: Kristin Washington

Position: FAV

February 7, 2022

Re: Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the President and CEO of W2 Consulting Corporation and have a few other businesses in Maryland. I am also a current resident of Maryland. I love Maryland but have been giving significant consideration to moving to Virginia due to their advantageous taxes and beneficial business atmosphere. With the approval of the Tax Relief for Maryland Businesses bill, Maryland will be taking a step in the right direction to benefit the businesses and business owners.

If you have any questions, please contact me at KWashington@W2ConsultingCorp.com and 301.960.3717.

Sincerely,



Kristin Washington, PsyD, PMP
President and CEO
W2 Consulting Corporation

Letter - Google Docs (version 2).pdf

Uploaded by: Kristina Kraus

Position: FAV

Legacy Holdings LLC
Kristina M Kraus, Member/Owner
2618 Laurel Valley Garth
Abingdon MD 21009
(443) 617-0518
krismkraus@gmail.com


4th of February, 2022

RE: Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

House Bill SB403
Hearing Date: 2/8/2022 2:30PM

This document is to serve as written testimony that I, Kristina M Kraus, Member and Owner of Legacy Holdings LLC, is in favor of the House Bill SB40 with no amendments.

Sincerely,

	dotloop verified 02/04/22 12:23 PM MST VWWW-WAEH-9NCV-DKV1
---	--

Kristina M Kraus , Member and Owner

Legacy Holdings LLC

443-617-0518

Document 2(1).pdf

Uploaded by: liaba waheed

Position: FAV

I testify

AIN LLC

MD SB403 Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Lindsay Mason

Position: FAV

Testimony of Lindsay N. Mason, Beach to Bay Guide Service LLC

In Favor of SB403

Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

My name is Lindsay N. Mason, owner of Beach to Bay Guide Service, LLC, as such I would like to state my position towards this bill as favorable.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lindsay N. Mason

Owner, Director

Beach to Bay Guide Service, LLC.

Princess Anne, Maryland

(443) 261-0770

Lindsay@beachtobayguides.com

SB 403_MDCC_Corporations and Associations – Annual

Uploaded by: Maddy Voytek

Position: FAV



MARYLAND
Chamber of Commerce

LEGISLATIVE POSITION:

Favorable

Senate Bill 403

Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

Tuesday, February 8, 2022

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 5,500 members and federated partners working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic recovery and growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

Currently, when a business is formed, qualified, or registered in the State they are required to file an Annual Report, which costs \$300, with the Department of Assessments and Taxation. SB 403 proposes to eliminate the fee attached to this report.

Out of all our surrounding states, Maryland charges one of the highest fees for Annual Reports. However, with the adoption of SB 403 Maryland would become to the first State in the country to provide a zero-fee option for businesses. This puts Maryland at a competitive advantage and incentives businesses to locate in the State.

One of the goals of the Maryland Chamber of Commerce is to strengthen the state's competitive tax climate and help attract and retain businesses, talent and investment and SB 403 accomplishes this. The elimination of the \$300 filing fee will remove barriers for prospective business owners and those looking to locate in the State. It will also help those currently located in Maryland, many of whom are still recovering from the COVID-19 shutdown.

SB 403 is a great example of government taking a proactive step to support small businesses and their economic recovery. With these comments in mind, Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a **favorable report** on **SB 403**.

MDCHAMBER.ORG

60 West Street, Suite 100, Annapolis 21401 | 410-269-0642

Untitled document-6.pdf

Uploaded by: Malka Koretzky

Position: FAV

To Whom it May Concern;

I am a small business owner located in Silver Spring, MD. I provide speech therapy services to families in my neighborhood. I am strongly in favor of removing the 300\$ annual fee for small business owners. There are many non-negotiable fees including national and state licensure and certification as well the many other associated costs for doing business. Removing the extra 300 paid annually would reduce the financial burden on local businesses. Thank you very much.

Malka Koretzky
Build and Grow Development, LLC

SB403-CapRecruiting-in-Favor.pdf

Uploaded by: Marc Frost

Position: FAV

Written Testimony in Favor of SB403

To whom it may concern:

Capital Recruiting stands **in favor** of DB403. Please use this as our official testimony.



Ryan Frost
Owner

Testimony for MD General Assembly SB0403.pdf

Uploaded by: Margaret Rifkin

Position: FAV

February 4, 2022

Testimony

SB0403

Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filing

BRAVO! This is excellent legislation and removes a burden on businesses during these difficult times. My small business is not producing any income at this time and when I paid the \$300 fee for filing an annual report it was definitely a loss.

Please also consider providing a credit or a refund of the fee for this year.

and providing relief from licensing fees for those of us who have professional licenses in the State of Maryland.

Thank you in advance.

Sincerely,

Margaret K Rifkin RLA AICP

Margaret K Rifkin LLC

1930 Flowering Tree Terrace

Silver Spring MD 20902

301 318 2613

Written Testimony Before the MAG Annual Filing Fee

Uploaded by: Marilyn Steele

Position: FAV

Written Testimony Before the
Maryland General Assembly

SB403 – Corporations and Associations, Annual Reports, Fees for Electronic Filings

February 4, 2022

On Behalf of Bolans-Darby Partners, Inc.; RXBSA Properties, LLC; & Mancuso Foods, LLC

Dear Members of the General Assembly,

We strongly favor SB40. Our experience as a small business in Maryland is that this relief will be wildly supported by struggling businesses, which forego some form of improvement each year to ensure they can pay this tax, but just as importantly, this bill will propel Maryland small businesses into able competitors in their fields of operations, make Maryland the envy of other jurisdictions and substantially draw more businesses to open in Maryland. With some of the smallest help available to us during the pandemic, you have seen Maryland small businesses work hard to keep their employees working, providing for their families and keep Maryland open. Imagine, what more we can do this assistance. It will put the wind to our backs and remove a stumbling block to our continued growth and prosperity to Maryland. It is more important that we offer good incentives that allows businesses to develop, employment to grow, families to be supported, communities to develop than burden these engines of our economy by this tax.

From our personal experience, we seriously entertained taking our business to Delaware, whose framework was so pro-business that it was nearly impossible to pass up. But we decided that Maryland and specifically Indian Head Maryland needed our work to help add to the revitalization of this community left behind. We pay nearly a \$1,000/year just to open our doors with this current tax— imagine how much more we could add to Indian Head’s revitalization if these funds went directly to Indian Head rather than to another tax. We have been keeping our heads above water in this pandemic and predominantly because our employees depend on us. We look to you help us keep this going. This bill would be an unbelievable lift forward for Maryland’s economy and I confident, many businesses will beat down our doors to come to this state. We strongly urge you to pass this bill.

Kind regards,

Marilyn Steele,
Secretary-Treasurer,
RXBSA Properties, LLC
Bolans-Darby Partners, Inc.
Mancuso Foods, LLC

Letter to SDAT-Signed Written Testimony in Favor o

Uploaded by: Mary Ann Lontoc-Naef

Position: FAV

L&M Consulting & Accounting Services, Inc.

25214 Mount Sterling Court, Mechanicsville, MD 20659

Phone: (301) 785-0022

Email address: mllontoc@msn.com

February 4, 2022

To Whom It May Concern

I am testifying that I am in favor of deleting the \$300.00 Annual Report filing fee to Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation and to file it online via the award-winning website Maryland Business Express.

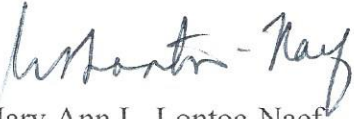
This is a much needed relief to Maryland's small business community.

My company, L & M Consulting & Accounting Services, Inc. is a very small company and \$300.00 is a big chunk on our cash flow. This will really helped the company a lot.

Your attention on this matter is appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mary Ann L. Lontoc-Naef". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line through the middle.

Mary Ann L. Lontoc-Naef

Letter to SDAT-Signed Written Testimony in Favor o

Uploaded by: Mary Ann Lontoc-Naef

Position: FAV

Boney's Towing & Repair Services, Inc.

702 Carson Ave., Oxon Hill, MD 20745

Phone: (301) 785-0022

Email address: boneystowing@gmail.com

February 4, 2022

To Whom It May Concern

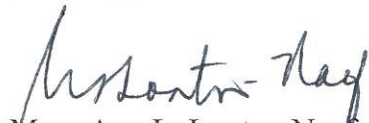
I am testifying that I am in favor of deleting the \$300.00 Annual Report filing fee to Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation and to file it online via the award-winning website Maryland Business Express.

This is a much needed relief to Maryland's small business community. My company, Boney's Towing & Repair Services, Inc. is a very small company and \$300.00 is a big chunk on our cash flow. This will really helped the company a lot.

Your attention on this matter is appreciated.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Mary Ann L. Lontoc-Naef

Testimony to eliminate \$300 SDAT fee.pdf

Uploaded by: Matt Beverungen

Position: FAV

Hello,

I am in support of the bill to eliminate the annual filing fee for businesses, when filing their Annual Report and Personal Property tax return.

I have been a tax professional in Maryland since 1985, and I've seen the filing fee go from \$40, to \$100, to \$300. It is a money grab. I think the rise to \$300 was when one governor promised no tax increases...but he did not rule out fee increases.

The whole personal property tax is an abomination anyway, and it's great that the MD Business Express has made filing easier for most businesses (and the burden actually falls on tax preparers like me, who have to respond to every new government initiative that comes along and requires different reporting from taxpayers).

Businesses drive economic growth - especially new ones, and small businesses, who are most impacted by having to cough up a \$300 fee. MD will become a lot more business-friendly when this fee goes away. I realize an Annual Report is still needed to stay on top of who's running corporations chartered here, and how much business they're doing. These new and small businesses will generate a lot of payroll taxes and sales tax for the state.

A lot of the pandemic-era new business registrants don't realize this \$300 annual fee is due. For some it's the point when they abandon their fledgling business idea.

I've said enough - please pass this bill and get rid of the \$300 annual money grab.

Thank you,

Matt Beverungen, CPA, MBA

Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Maxine Maxey

Position: FAV

February 4, 2022

I, Maxine Immanuelle C. Maxey, hereby testify **in favor of** the SB0403 Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings Bill.

Sincerely,

Maxine Maxey

MACPA Written Testimony - SUPPORT SB 403.pdf

Uploaded by: MB Halpern

Position: FAV



Feb. 4, 2022

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Budget and Taxation Committee
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB 403 "Corporations and Associations - Annual Reports - Fees for Electronic Filings" -
FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Guzzone and members of the Committee,

The Maryland Association of Certified Public Accountants (MACPA) is a membership organization with nearly 9,000 CPA members. Our members serve thousands of individual and business clients throughout the state. We wish to express our support for SB 403.

The State Department of Assessments and Taxation recognized the opportunity offered through modernization by introducing an online option for annual business filings in 2015. Online filing is a more efficient and cost-effective method for both the filer and SDAT. Electronic filing has allowed the department to process filings and payments quickly and, in turn, save the state money. SB 403 will further incentivize online filing for businesses by offering a zero-fee option. Increasing the number of online filers will reduce the administrative burden and in turn, enhance the support and services offered to the public and to our CPA members.

SB 403 will serve to incentivize businesses to locate assets in Maryland by offering an annual report fee structure that is among the most competitive in the nation. The economic advantages of businesses investing in Maryland assets is much larger than the tax revenue collected via a filing fee. It is for these reasons that we respectfully request a favorable report for SB 403.

Sincerely,

MACPA State Tax Committee

cc: Nick Manis, Manis Canning & Associates

scanner@paxcos.com_20220204_132500.pdf

Uploaded by: Michael Gardiner

Position: FAV



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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Gardiner", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael H. Gardiner
Partner and Vice President

Letter to Md Gen Assembly Re SB403 Bill 02 05 2022

Uploaded by: Michelle Seidleck

Position: FAV



The Law Office of Michelle L. Seidleck, LLC

2221 Indian Summer Drive
Odenton, Maryland 21113-2280
(410) 777-9619

Email: mlseidleck@legaleaglepro.com
Website: www.legaleaglepro.com

February 5, 2022

Maryland General Assembly
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
ATTN: Senator Guy Guzzone, Chairman
Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice-Chairman
3 West Street
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter in Support of SB403, Corporations and
Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for
Electronic Filings

Dear Mr. Guzzone, Mr. Rosapepe, and Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

Please allow this letter to serve as my support of Senate Bill 403, Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings. This bill has been proposed to eliminate the expense(s) paid by corporations and other small business entities to the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation for Annual Reports that are filed electronically. In addition to the Maryland Business Express website being an effective tool for small businesses, online filing also allows these reports to be streamlined for review and completion. Thus, utilizing this method of filing required Annual Reports is beneficial to both the small business owner and the state.

As a background for my support of SB 403, I had opened my solo practitioner law office two years ago when the COVID pandemic first struck our country. Being unable to practice law as expected due to Court closures, as well as the inability to meet with potential clients, caused an unexpected financial burden on my newly established business. In an effort to stay up to date with the jurisdictions in which I practice, I joined several local bar associations and renewed my memberships to both the Maryland State Bar Association and the American Bar Association. Each of these memberships have separate fees, which cost hundreds of dollars each to join. Becoming

a member of local Bar Associations is a tremendous resource for all practicing attorneys, but essentially a *necessity* for those lawyers venturing out on their own for the first time. I offer this information as another example of annual expenses associated with becoming a small business owner in Maryland.

Of course, there are other expenses associated with owning a small business, including malpractice insurance, renter's insurance, technology and associated cyber security as it pertains to client/attorney confidentiality, secure billing and operating systems cost, and, of course, state and federal tax filings. If SB403 is passed, it will bring much-needed relief to Maryland's small business owners, including myself, by waiving the required \$300.00 fee currently associated with filing the Annual Report to the SDAT. I am of the opinion that most attorneys, even those who do not currently file their Annual Reports electronically, would begin to do so if this fee were eliminated.

I urge the members of this Committee to consider that any savings in filing fees and other monthly and annual expenses for small business owners such as myself would inevitably benefit both the business owner and Maryland, which would become the first state in the country to provide a “*no fee option*” for filing Annual Reports. By passing SB 403, small business owners who choose to file electronically will receive the benefit from having one less annual fee to consider when drafting their next budget.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration in reading my letter in support of Senate Bill 403. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

THE LAW OFFICE OF MICHELLE L. SEIDLECK, LLC



Michelle L. Seidleck

Untitled document (4).pdf

Uploaded by: Monique Hunter

Position: FAV

Monique Hunter
4609 Morning Glory Trail
Bowie, MD 20720

202-262-6734

I am in support of this bill.

During this pandemic, entrepreneurs who make their living by planning events were greatly impacted by the pandemic when events became restricted by the state and county.

It became burdensome to pay fees such as the annual business filing with insufficient income. This bill will greatly help small businesses such as mine who are still recovering from events that are still limited and people who are still hesitant in attending events even when all protocols are in place.

Testimony for SB403 Feb82022.pdf

Uploaded by: Nerea Gibson

Position: FAV

Written Testimony from Nerea Gibson, owner of Aeren Waters LLC
Friday, February 4, 2022

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee Hearing on [SB403](#), Corporations and Associations –
Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

In Favor of SB403 bill

Good afternoon Maryland Senate Budget and Taxation Committee Members,

I present this written testimony in favor of SB403 bill.

Eradicating this fee would be a great relief, as a small business owner within Maryland. Navigating expenses, fees and taxes, associated with being a sole proprietor adds even more pressure, to the already compulsory and unknowns in running a small enterprise. This pressure has been especially felt during the most recent slumps, experienced during the past several months/years with a devastating pandemic.

Removing the annual report filing fee alone is an incentive, as a small business owner. Doing so would help increase filing consistency, and removes the fee as a barrier, which thwarts or delays filing. Small business owners want to succeed, thrive, and retain good business standing. Removing the fee is one part of helping us to do so. Thank you.

New Form (5).pdf

Uploaded by: Patience Okoroh

Position: FAV

Good afternoon,
To whom it may concern. I have been facing hardship as a business owner after losing my spouse Solomon okoroh to gun violence in addition to losing my dearest mother this past August. On top of the pandemic struggles it is a lot for one to bare & handle. Please extend grace, it has not been easy to operate but by God's grace we are here. We need help.

Thank you for this opportunity.
God bless.

Patience okoroh

SB0403 - Kwan.pdf

Uploaded by: Quon Kwan

Position: FAV

February 04, 2022

Dear Senators

I am a small business owner who is favoring SB 0403 because it removes the current \$300 filing charge that I have to pay even if my report is full of zeros (i.e., I have nothing to report). I do not engage in sales of physical inventory items so that is why my numbers are zero. This bill would save tens of thousands of small business owners like me hundreds of thousands of dollars of year. I am glad to go to electronic filing in order to avoid the nuisance paper work and better yet avoid the \$300 filing fee.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony



Quon Kwan

Patrick K Property Care, LLC

14913 Bauer Drive

Rockville, MD 20853

qykwan@gmail.com

301 460-7454

SB403-in-Favor-1on1technologies - signed.pdf

Uploaded by: Ryan Frost

Position: FAV



SB403 Written Testimony
2/4/22

Written Testimony in Favor of SB403

To whom it may concern:

I on 1 Technologies stands **in favor** of DB403. Please use this as our official testimony.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "RF", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ryan Frost
Owner

EAST: 443-955-6041 1997 Annapolis Exchange Pkwy #300 Annapolis, MD 21401

WEST: 602-926-1616 20 E Thomas Rd Suite 2200, Phoenix, AZ 85012

support@1on1technologies.com www.1on1technologies.com



Small buisness in favor of passing bill - Google D

Uploaded by: Sarah Treich

Position: FAV

As a small business owner, taxes and fees are a huge burden upon myself and my business. A \$300 yearly cost plus the other taxes and fees I'm required to pay are hurtful to my business. I'm a small company trying to grow bigger, but at the moment I don't make a large income, so all the fees I pay are a large percentage against my income. Removing and reducing any fees or taxes make my company and many other small companies such as my own more profitable and increases our survival rate. With \$300 a year my company could purchase equipment for my company to grow, and ultimately be a small part in achieving my American dream.

Additionally a fellow small business owner who currently resides in another state, who is looking to relocate within the next few years, wants to consider Maryland for herself and her own small business, but yearly fees such as this are a deterrent. Passing this bill would turn this deterrent into an incentive to bring families and small businesses to Maryland.

I urge you to pass this bill, as it will help already established small businesses such as my own within our state, as well as attract new small businesses.

Noss Investments Testimonial.pdf

Uploaded by: Shafi Noss

Position: FAV

I am a 25 year old entrepreneur born in Baltimore and raised in Bethesda. Just before the pandemic I created my LLC in Maryland to formalize my real estate business.

I had no assets, maybe a thousand dollars in the bank and a \$5000 car. I worked diligently and today I generate a modest income by brokering private loans to other investors, and I work with my business partner developing million dollar homes in Austin Texas. The first has yet to sell but we are acquiring a third at the time of this writing.

So my business has a promise for great profits, profits which would potentially flow into and be taxed in Maryland. But like many entrepreneurs I have built my business with little free cash, and a long setup, which makes LLC fees a financial and psychological barrier for businesses similar to mine.

I did create the LLC anyway. But I could have done so more confidently without them, and perhaps there are other businesses never realized in our state because of the primarily psychological barriers to a relatively high fee structure. Electronic filings also take less administration than manual filings, so for those reasons I testify in favor of this amendment.

in favor.pdf

Uploaded by: Shalyce Tyson

Position: FAV

I am in favor to eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically.

Shalyce Tyson

Legislation Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Shamar Briscoe

Position: FAV

To Whom This May Concern:

I have two business in the State of Maryland Curtis & Briscoe LLC and Briscoe's Investments LLC. My businesses have suffered a great deal due to the covid-19 pandemic. My businesses haven't been much profitable since the peak of the pandemic in 2020. Passing this legislation will help me and many more businesses in the State of Maryland to stay afloat during the economic times we are facing in 2021-2022.

The passing of this legislation will make Maryland the first state in the country to provide a zero-fee option for all businesses for this type of filing, which is required to be submitted every year with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) via the award-winning website Maryland Business Express.

In terms of this, we will amend Maryland's annual report fee structure to be among the most competitive in the nation, and incentivize online filing, which is a more efficient and cost-effective filing method for businesses and the state.

This legislation will bring much-needed relief to Maryland's small business community, which continues to grow by historic numbers since the onset of the pandemic. I hope everyone will consider this legislation to be approved to help this state thrive to become one of the best states to reside in the country.

ADORN IN FAVOR.pdf

Uploaded by: Shelby Hankins

Position: FAV

I, Shelby Hankins, owner of ADORN DEEP CREEK, LLC am in favor of SB0403 to eliminate the filing fee for electronic annual reports. I am a single mother who has been very much affected by the pandemic. I have not been able to start up my business like I dreamed of doing. Though I have not made any money I am still required to pay \$300 to file a zero report. I simply cannot afford that. I was contemplating dissolving my LLC. If SB0403 is passed I would be able to file annually and be in good standing again with the state. I would not have to lose my LLC.

This bill could positively impact the economy in a wonderful way. Support small business.
Thank you so much!!

SB 403.pdf

Uploaded by: Stephen Vaughn

Position: FAV

Stephen R. Vaughn
27211 Chipmans Lane
Federalsburg, MD 21632
410-253-3403

My name is Stephen Vaughn, I am a resident of District 37B, and a spouse of a small business owner on Maryland's Eastern shore. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB 403, Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB 403. The passing of this legislation will further support and promote small businesses in Maryland and be favorable to Maryland's economy. Incentivizing online filing will save the State and small businesses time and money.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Sincerely,

Stephen Vaughn

SB403 Letter.pdf

Uploaded by: Steven Harris

Position: FAV

February 4, 2022

Re: SB403

To the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

I'm submitting this letter in favor of bill SB403. I believe that eliminating the annual report fee will incentivize small businesses to come to Maryland and individuals to start small businesses in Maryland. With Maryland's online filing system being so efficient and cost-effective for the state, it's only reasonable to eliminate the annual report fee and bring the much-needed relief to small businesses to help them grow. I am a Maryland resident and own several businesses. Unfortunately, I only registered one business in Maryland due to the yearly filing fee. My other businesses are registered in Virginia due to Virginia's annual filing fee being 6 times less than Maryland. If this bill passes, I would definitely register my other businesses in Maryland only. In speaking with other associates who own small businesses in Maryland, they also could use the relief of the annual report fees and are in favor of this bill.

Lastly, in passing SB403, the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee will show Maryland businesses that they are appreciated and that the state of Maryland is on the forefront.

Sincerely,



Steven P. Harris

Maryland General Assembly Testimony_SB403.pdf

Uploaded by: Susan Wright

Position: FAV

Maryland General Assembly Testimony

In Favor of SB0403 on behalf of Kimberly Shines Media, LLC “KSM”

Kimberly A. Hines, Registered Agent

I own and operate an online music magazine that was founded in 2007. I incorporated my business in Maryland in 2015 to go after larger digital advertising and marketing contracts and in-person media activation partnerships. After some initial success, business infrastructure issues caused me to lose opportunities. That is when I started struggling financially and fell behind in paying the annual report filing fees. I caught up briefly, but lost ground a year later.

Nonetheless, I attempted to file the annual reports – because no tax was owed on tangible personal property due to the nature of my business -- but was unable to submit the online forms because I did not have the funds to pay the filing fee.

During the pandemic, I learned that my business was in forfeiture. Attempts to apply for grants and loans and partnerships that would help my company obtain funds to make the necessary upgrades to the website in these extenuating economic times were thwarted. Yet and still, I continued to make and remit revenue to the state of Maryland through sales tax collection and payments – from my online merchandise store -- that are equal to or greater than the \$300 filing fee.

I am confident that the letter and intent of the law was not to penalize hard-working Marylanders, but to help us. Instead, we are being penalized by this fee, despite our best efforts in what are extremely difficult times.

I respectfully ask that you vote in favor of amending current legislation to sunset this filing fee. I ask that you send SB403 out of committee and to the entire Senate – with your support – for a full vote.

Thank you.

*This testimony was quickly drafted to meet the 3 pm deadline. Please forgive any typos or grammatical errors.

MD Official Business and Tax Forms.pdf

Uploaded by: Tim Bugarski

Position: FAV

STATE OF MARYLAND
Department of Assessments and Taxation

I, Michael L. Higgs, Director of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, hereby certify that the attached document, consisting of 1 pages, inscribed with the same Authentication Code, is a true copy of the public record of the

Articles of Organization

for

TIM BUGARSKI PHOTOGRAPHY LLC

(Department ID: **W19779420**)

I further certify that this document is a true copy generated from the online service with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my signature and affixed the seal of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of Maryland at Baltimore on this July 06, 2019.



Michael L. Higgs
Director



301 West Preston Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21201
Telephone Baltimore Metro (410) 767-1344 / Outside Baltimore Metro (888) 246-5941
MRS (Maryland Relay Service) (800) 735-2258 TT/Voice

State of Maryland
**Department of
Assessments and Taxation**

Charter Division



Larry Hogan
Governor
Michael L. Higgs
Acting Director

Date: 7/6/2019

TIMOTHY BUGARSKI
3218 RICHFIELD ROAD
HUNTINGTOWN MD 20639

THIS LETTER IS TO CONFIRM ACCEPTANCE OF THE FOLLOWING FILING:

ENTITY NAME : Tim Bugarski Photography LLC

DEPARTMENT ID : W19779420
TYPE OF REQUEST : Articles of Organization
DATE FILED : 6/29/2019
TIME FILED : 1:50 PM
FILING NUMBER : 5000000002694387
CUSTOMER ID : 5000358776
WORK ORDER NUMBER : I918000062

PLEASE VERIFY THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS LETTER. NOTIFY THIS DEPARTMENT IN WRITING IF ANY INFORMATION IS INCORRECT. INCLUDE THE CUSTOMER ID AND THE WORK ORDER NUMBER ON ANY INQUIRIES. EVERY YEAR THIS ENTITY MUST FILE AN ANNUAL REPORT/PERSONAL PROPERTY RETURN IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN ITS EXISTENCE EVEN IF IT DOES NOT OWN PERSONAL PROPERTY. THE RETURN IS FOUND ON THE SDAT WEBSITE.

EFFECTIVE DATE : 6/29/2019
PRINCIPAL OFFICE : 3218 Richfield Road
Huntingtown MD 20639

RESIDENT AGENT : Timothy Bugarski

3218 Richfield Road
Huntingtown MD 20639

ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION

The undersigned, with the intention of creating a Maryland Limited Liability Company files the following Articles of Organization:

(1) The name of the Limited Liability Company is:

Tim Bugarski Photography LLC (W19779420)

(2) The purpose for which the Limited Liability Company is filed is as follows:

Photography

(3) The address of the Limited Liability Company in Maryland is:

3218 Richfield Road, Huntingtown, MD, 20639

(4) The Resident Agent of the Limited Liability Company in Maryland is:

Timothy Bugarski

whose address is:

3218 Richfield Road, Huntingtown, MD, 20639

(5) Signature(s) of Authorized Person(s):

Timothy Bugarski

(6) Signature(s) of Resident Agent(s):

Timothy Bugarski

(7) Filing party's name and return address:

Mr . Timothy Bugarski, 3218 Richfield Road, Huntingtown,
MD, 20639

I hereby consent to my designation in this document.

Phone: 410-767-2730
Central Reg. #: 17719968

July 25, 2019

TIMOTHY BUGARSKI PHOTOGRAPHY
LLC
3218 RICHFIELD RD
HUNTINGTOWN, MD 20639-0000

Dear Employer:

Upon review of information received from you, it has been determined that under present circumstances you are not liable for payment of contributions under the Maryland Unemployment Insurance Law for the following reason:

Partners only employed in partnership.

If your conditions of employment, type of business or other circumstances change, it will be your responsibility to promptly inform us of the changes. A Maryland unemployment insurance account will not be established unless you notify us.

Should you require further information, please contact me at the above telephone number.

Sincerely,



Angela Hamlin
New Accounts Specialist
Employer Status Unit



**State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
Businessowners Policy**

Prepared: July 8, 2019

Prepared for: TIM BUGARSKI PHOTOGRAPHY, LLC.
3218 RICHFIELD RD
HUNTINGTOWN, MD 20639-9447

Phone:

Prepared by: Mike Paxson
Michael D Paxson Ins Agcy Inc
140 Main St
Pmc Frederck, MD 20678-3384

Mailing address: PO Box 445
Pmc Frederck, MD 20678-0445

Phone: (410)535-4774

Email: mike.paxson.b9qr@statefarm.com

Quote Effective Date: 07/08/2019

Quote Results

	<u>Limit</u>	<u>Premium</u>
Coverages		
Coverage B - Business Personal Property	1,000 - Replacement Cost	67.00
Loss Of Income And Extra Expense	Actual Loss Sustained - 12 Months	
Coverage L - Business Liability - Per Occurrence	1,000,000	53.00
Coverage L - Business Liability - Annual Aggregate Limit	2,000,000	
Products / Completed Operations Liability - Annual Aggregate	2,000,000	
Damage to Premises Rented to You	300,000	
Coverage M - Medical Expenses	5,000	
Policy Deductibles		
Basic Deductible	1,000	
Equipment Breakdown	1,000	
Inland Marine Computer Property Form	500	
Money and Securities	250	
Discounts and Charges		
Business In Residence Premises		(30.00)
Extensions of Coverage		
Accounts Receivable (Off Premises)	5,000	
Accounts Receivable (On Premises)	10,000	
Arson Reward	5,000	
Collapse	Included	
Damage To Non-Owned Buildings From Theft, Burglary Or Robbery	Coverage B Limit	
Debris Removal	25% of covered loss	
Equipment Breakdown	Included	
Fire Department Service Charge	2,500	
Fire Extinguisher Systems Recharge Expense	5,000	
Forgery Or Alteration	10,000	
Glass Expenses	Included	
Increased Cost Of Construction And Demolition Costs (applies only when buildings are insured on a replacement cost basis)	10%	
Inland Marine Computer Property Form	25,000	
Inland Marine Computer Property Loss of Income / Extra Expense	25,000	
Money And Securities (Off Premises)	2,000	

This is a sample quote that contains only a general description of some available coverages and limits with an approximate premium, subject to eligibility. It is not a contract, binder of coverage or coverage recommendation. All coverages are subject to the terms, provisions, exclusions, and conditions in the policy and its endorsements. If information used for rating changes or different rates are effective at the time of policy issuance, this rate quote may be revised. If you have any questions, please contact my office.

Quote Results

	Limit	Premium
Money And Securities (On Premises)		
Money Orders And Counterfeit Money	5,000	
Newly Acquired Business Personal Property (applies only if this policy provides Coverage B - Business Personal Property)	1,000	
Newly Acquired Or Constructed Buildings (applies only if this policy provides Coverage A - Buildings)	100,000	
Ordinance Or Law - Equipment Coverage	250,000	
Outdoor Property	Included	
Personal Effects (applies only to those premises provided Coverage B - Business Personal Property)	5,000	
Personal Property Off Premises	2,500	
Pollutant Clean Up And Removal	15,000	
Preservation Of Property	10,000	
Property Of Others (applies only to those premises provided Coverage B - Business Personal Property)	30 Days	
Seasonal Increase - Business Personal Property	2,500	
Signs	25%	
Valuable Papers and Records (Off Premises)	2,500	
Valuable Papers and Records (On Premises)	5,000	
Water Damage, Other Liquids, Powder Or Molten Material Damage	10,000	
	Included	
Additional Endorsements		680.00
PHOTOGRAPHY EQUIPMENT, 100 deductible, 35,000 coverage		
Total Annual Premium		770.00
Monthly Premium (Service charge not included)		64.17

Rating Information

Location 1 -

Address: 3218 Richfield Rd
Huntingtown, MD 20639-9447

County: Calvert

Is this address inside the city limits: No

Earthquake zone: 05

Occupancy / Ownership: Business in Residence

Type of business: 634 - Photographer/Photography Studios

Year built: 1987

Number of years the applicant has owned and operated the same type of insured business: 0
Construction: Frame

Territory Zone: 63

Subzone: 01

Personal Property: 1000

This is a sample quote that contains only a general description of some available coverages and limits with an approximate premium, subject to eligibility. It is not a contract, binder of coverage or coverage recommendation. All coverages are subject to the terms, provisions, exclusions, and conditions in the policy and its endorsements. If information used for rating changes or different rates are effective at the time of policy issuance, this rate quote may be revised. If you have any questions, please contact my office.

SB403 Tenne.pdf

Uploaded by: Timothy Tenne

Position: FAV

4 Feb 2022

MEMORANDUM FOR MARYLAND Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

FROM: TIMOTHY T. TENNE, CEO, T3 IDEAS LLC

Subject: Testimony in Favor of SB403 – Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

Sir/Ma'am,

I am the founder and CEO of a Maryland small business and I fully support and I am in favor of the passage of SB403 in reducing and/or eliminating the fees in conjunction with the annual filing requirement.

Given that the processing has minimal impact on state resources, the elimination of the exorbitant annual fee should be eliminated to encourage business formation and operations in our great state of Maryland. Also, in light of the ability for businesses to submit the form electronically, the automated application should be enabled to process the submission with minimal human intervention. The process and system can and should still be audited to ensure compliance with state regulations. Additionally, the offset in revenue will be far outweighed by a very small increase in business formation due to the annual business and income taxes that will come from having more businesses within our state borders and more workers on company payrolls.

I respectfully request the committee fully consider and vote in favor of the passage of the bill.

Very Respectfully,



Timothy T. Tenne, CEO, T3 Ideas LLC

SSC Letter in Favor of SB403.pdf

Uploaded by: tracy rebele

Position: FAV



02/04/2022

To Whom It May Concern;

As a representative of Silver Spring Concrete Inc, this letter serves to state that our company supports [SB403](#), Corporations and Associations - Annual Reports - Fees for Electronic Filings, a bill that will eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically. Thank you and best regards,

Tracy Rebelo
Executive Administrator
Silver Spring Concrete Inc.
14929 Old Dover Road, Rockville Md 20850
240.328.6080 | admin@silverspringconcreteinc.com

tax bill.pdf

Uploaded by: Tyshawna Briggs

Position: FAV

I am favorable of this bill

Tyshawna Briggs

SB0403- Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Vallery Jackson

Position: FAV



2/4/2022

From: Vallery Jackson, Owner of Waggy World & Professional Property Management Services, LLC

RE: SB0403 -Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings

I'm providing my written testimony IN FAVOR OF ELIMINATING THE \$300 ONLINE FILING FEE FOR ANNUAL REPORTS.

I remember when I first created my businesses, I had no idea of the \$300 fee and wasn't making any profits at all for several years. When I finally begin to see revenue and proceeded to open my checking accounts, I had to pay 2 years' worth of filing fees....OUCH!!

Filing these Annual Reports should be required but to pay \$300 to use the ONLINE SYSTEM to file Annual Returns is a bit absurd and does not help a small start up business and only creates an additional financial burden on a business not seeing profits. If an Annual Report is NOT filed, then the penalty for not filing could/should be \$300 and a "NOT IN GOOD STANDING" status to encourage filings.

The use of online transactions shouldn't come with a huge financial burden but to make things easier for business owners who don't have time for mailing paper filings and the state gets the information needed in a timely manner. It's a win-win for all involved to eliminate this as it can be very discouraging to want to start a business, legally.

PLEASE RECONSIDER!!



Vallery A. Jackson, RPA & Owner

Professional Property Management Services, LLC

3261 Old Washington Road Suite 2020

Waldorf, MD 20602

Tele: (301) 818-1423

Email: PPMS.LLC@outlook.com



Vallery A. Jackson, Owner

Waggy World, LLC

813 Copley Ave

Waldorf, MD 20602

Tele: (202) 200-1845

Email: WaggyWorld@outlook.com

Facebook: [Waggy World @NinaJax1215](https://www.facebook.com/WaggyWorld@NinaJax1215)

Letter to MD Senate .pdf

Uploaded by: Virginia Wanko

Position: FAV



G WANKO COACHING

2400 Rockwell Avenue, Catonsville, MD 21228

February 4, 2021

**The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Senate Budget & Taxation Committee
Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401**

RE: Support letter for Senate Bill 403

Dear Chair Guzzone and members of the Committee,

My name is Virginia Wanko and I am the owner of G Wanko Coaching, LLC. Thank you for the opportunity to offer my support for SB403, Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Fees for Electronic Filings.

This bill will eliminate the filing fee for businesses that submit their annual report electronically and it will help tremendously, especially in these times, to eliminate this fee. Should this bill pass, it will bring a bit of relief to myself as a business owner and for that, I would be very grateful. I am an independent contractor and am trying not to raise my rates for my clients since everything else seems to be going up in all sectors of the economy.

If passed, SB403 will make Maryland one of the most competitive for being small business friendly. I respectfully request your support of SB403. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Virginia Wanko

Virginia (Ginger) Wanko

Owner, G Wanko Coaching

G WANKO COACHING

2400 Rockwell Avenue, Catonsville, MD 21228 | 410-845-9889

gingerwanko@gmail.com

SB403 Testimony for General Assembly.pdf

Uploaded by: Wanda Lehman

Position: FAV

I am in favor of SB403 because:

- 1) I am a small business owner in Maryland
- 2) It is more convenient and less expensive for business owners
- 3) It makes Maryland a more competitive state in which to own a business
- 4) It further modernizes Maryland's government systems to be more efficient and effective.

Thank you for your consideration to vote in favor of SB403.

Respectfully,

Wanda Lehman, Owner, Sole Member
Lehman Bookkeeping LLC
19701 Gunpowder Road
Millers, MD 21102
410-812-8334
wanda.lehman@gmail.com

February 4, 2022

Testimony for SB0403.pdf

Uploaded by: Jaime Thompson

Position: FWA

Testimony for SB0403

From Jaime Thompson, owner of Nicholynn Advisors, LLC

Nicholynn Advisors is a full-service accounting firm located in Stevensville, Maryland. We spend a significant amount of time filing various forms on the Maryland Business Express website for our business clients, including their Annual Report and Personal Property Returns.

I am in support of eliminating filing fees paid by businesses to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for filing certain annual reports that are filed electronically. As a multi-business owner myself, every dollar that we can save on fees is more we can spend back in our community and in the people we employ.

I would like to go further though and see that the “expedited” fees be eliminated, too. If the SDAT needs to raise their filing fees, that’s understandable. But it is very difficult to explain to my clients why they are paying the \$50 “expedited” filing fee simply for filing online instead of mailing in their forms. When the fee to change a Resident Agent or a Mailing Address for the business costs \$25, but the “expedited” fee is \$50, it makes many of our clients second guess paying for the change of information, which causes its own set of problems. Especially now that even paying the fee for “expedited” service the SDAT is still taking two weeks, on average to process certain forms.

I would like to thank the Committee for their time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jaime Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jaime" being more prominent than the last name "Thompson".

Jaime Thompson
Nicholynn Advisors, LLC
137 Log Canoe Circle
Stevensville, MD 21666

sb403.pdf

Uploaded by: Brian Seel

Position: UNF

Dear members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee,

I am a resident of District 46 and a business owner who pays the \$300 yearly filing fee, and I am writing to **oppose** SB403.

In a year when we are proposing to not fund Blueprint for Maryland, it seems unconscionable for us to propose cutting fees for businesses. I will continue to operate my business no matter if there is this \$300 fee or not. However, one of the things that make Maryland the most inhospitable for business is the lack of investment we are making into people, through education, as well as many of the other social services that we provide to people through our schools.

This is a very expensive way for some politicians to be able to say that they are pro-business, while ignoring some of our most vulnerable residents. This was made very obvious when SDAT sent an email to all filers asking them to submit testimony in favor of this legislation, which feels very dirty.

Please oppose this legislation.

Brian Seel

223 S Wolfe St

SB403_MD Center on Economic Policy_UNF.pdf

Uploaded by: Kali Schumitz

Position: UNF

Businesses Should Pitch In for the Investments that Uphold Maryland's Economy

Position Statement in Opposition to Senate Bill 403

Given before the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

An effective revenue system is an essential tool to enable Maryland to invest in the foundations of our economy, such as education, health care, and transportation. Just as importantly, a fair tax system is essential to push back against the increasing concentration of wealth and power in a few hands. All Marylanders benefit when we have sufficient resources to invest in the basics, and these investments can be particularly important to break down the barriers—built through past and present policies—that hold back many Marylanders because of their race, gender, a disability, or another aspect of their identity. Businesses rely on the shared investments we make as a state, and corporate filing fees are one of the ways they pitch in to support those investments. Senate Bill 403 would absolve them of that responsibility. **For these reasons, the Maryland Center on Economic Policy opposes Senate Bill 403.**

Maryland already has a lot to offer as a place to do business. We have the highest median household income among the 50 states.ⁱ Our workforce is highly educated, with the second-highest share of advanced degree holders.ⁱⁱ And our mix of taxes and services is among the most favorable to businesses, according to the accounting and consulting firm Ernst and Young.ⁱⁱⁱ The firm's analysis finds that businesses get \$1.43 in benefits for every \$1.00 paid in Maryland state and local taxes.

The evidence is clear that Senate Bill 403 would bring little benefit to our economy:

- Business leaders consistently rate skilled workers, reliable transportation, and quality of life as among the most important factors they consider when choosing where to locate.^{iv} Taxes and other revenues are how we support those assets. In one survey of founders of fast-growing companies, only 5 percent even mentioned tax rates as a factor in their location decisions. One reason taxes aren't businesses' top priority is that they pale next to cost drivers like payroll and real estate, with taxes only amounting to 2 to 3 percent of most businesses' costs.^v
- Most job creation comes from young, homegrown companies expanding—and most entrepreneurs launch a business in the state where they already live.^{vi} Demand is a more important factor than taxes when these businesses consider expanding.

Senate Bill 403 is primarily a giveaway to individuals with significant built-up wealth, who own the bulk of business equity. Multiple intersecting areas of historical and continuing racist policy have largely shut Black Marylanders and other Marylanders of color out of this group. The wealthiest 10 percent of white households nationwide (about 6 percent of all households) control nearly two-thirds of all built-up wealth—leaving less for everyone else, including the majority of white households and nearly all households of color.^{vii} In Maryland, tax filers with income over \$250,000 are several times as likely as everyone else to report types of income related to business ownership.^{viii}

While the benefits of business tax cuts are minimal, the associated harms are substantial. Senate Bill 403 would cost the state \$36 million in lost revenue in fiscal year 2023, rising to \$48 million per year by FY 2027.^{ix} By reducing the resources available to invest in the foundations of Maryland’s economy, the bill would heighten the economic barriers that hold back too many Marylanders. Our unmet needs in areas like education, health care, and transportation are beginning to pile up, and Marylanders of color often bear the greatest costs. Senate Bill 403 is part of a pattern on the part of Gov. Hogan of prioritizing large businesses and wealthy individuals over the foundations of thriving Maryland communities. This bill is one part of a fiscal plan that shorts public schools by \$140 million while handing out \$224 million in lopsided tax breaks.

For these reasons, the Maryland Center on Economic Policy respectfully requests that the Budget and Taxation Committee make an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 403.

Equity Impact Analysis: Senate Bill 403

Bill summary

Senate Bill 403 would eliminate annual filing fees for documents submitted electronically by a corporation or other business entity.

Background

Business leaders consistently rate skilled workers, reliable transportation, and quality of life as among the most important factors they consider when choosing where to locate.^x In one survey of founders of fast-growing companies, only 5 percent even mentioned tax rates as a factor in their location decisions.

State and local taxes paid by businesses totaled 3.8% of Maryland’s private-sector economy in FY 2020, according to analysis by the accounting and consulting firm Ernst and Young. This is substantially below the nationwide “total effective business tax rate” of 4.5%.

The same report states that businesses in Maryland pay as little as \$0.70 in state and local taxes for each \$1.00 of investments benefiting businesses, equivalent to \$1.43 in benefits per \$1.00 paid. By this measure, Maryland has the 5th-most business-friendly mix of taxes and expenditures nationwide.

Equity Implications

Senate Bill 403 would likely hand the largest tax cuts to wealthy, predominantly white individuals.

Business filing fees are ultimately paid by people who have an ownership stake in a business. Data on the types of income Maryland tax filers report indicate that wealthy individuals are considerably more likely than others to hold business equity—and are therefore more likely to receive a tax break from Senate Bill 403:

Share of Tax Filers Reporting Business-Related Income, TY 2018			
	Wealthiest 5% MD AGI > \$250k	Other 95% MD AGI < \$250k	Ratio
Dividends	71%	20%	3.6x
Business Income	28%	18%	1.5x
Capital Gains	69%	17%	4.0x
Partnership Income	35%	4%	8.0x
Source: MDCEP analysis of Maryland Statistics of Individual Income, TY 2018.			

The wealthiest 10 percent of white households nationwide (about 6 percent of all households) control nearly two-thirds of all built-up wealth—leaving less for everyone else, including the majority of white households and nearly all households of color.^{xi}

Eliminating business filing fees would erase revenue the state could otherwise invest in Maryland communities. Our growing underinvestment in essential services like education, health care, and transportation harms all Marylanders, and at the same time has outsized impacts on people who face structural barriers because of low income or the ongoing legacy of racist policy. Even during a period of fiscal strength, lopsided tax breaks weaken the state’s ability to invest in broadly shared prosperity.

Impact

Senate Bill 403 would likely **worsen racial and economic inequity** in Maryland.

ⁱ 2020 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates.

ⁱⁱ 2019 American Community Survey one-year estimates.

ⁱⁱⁱ “Total State and Local Business Taxes: State-by-State Estimates for Fiscal Year 2020,” Ernst & Young LLP, 2021, https://www.ey.com/en_us/tax/fy-20-total-state-and-local-business-taxes

^{iv} Geraldine Gambale, “35th Annual Corporate Survey: Effects of Global Pandemic Reflected in Executives’ Site and Facility Plans,” *Area Development*, 2021, <https://www.areadevelopment.com/Corporate-Consultants-Survey-Results/Q1-2021/35th-annual-corporate-survey.shtml>

Rhett Morris, “What Do the Best Entrepreneurs Want in a City? Lessons from the Founders of America’s Fastest-Growing Companies,” *Endeavor Insight*, 2014, https://issuu.com/endeavorglobal1/docs/what_do_the_best_entrepreneurs_want

^v Robert Tannenwald, “Testimony of Robert Tannenwald, Senior Fellow, Before the New Hampshire Business Tax Commission,” Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2010, <https://www.cbpp.org/testimony-of-robert-tannenwald-senior-fellow-before-the-new-hampshire-business-tax-commission>

^{vi} Michael Mazerov and Michael Leachman, “State Job Creation Strategies Often Off Base,” Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2016, <https://www.cbpp.org/research/state-budget-and-tax/state-job-creation-strategies-often-off-base>

^{vii} Michael Leachman, Michael Mitchell, Nicholas Johnson, and Erica Williams, “Advancing Racial Equity with State Tax Policy,” Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2018, <https://www.cbpp.org/research/state-budget-and-tax/advancing-racial-equity-with-state-tax-policy>

^{viii} MDCEP analysis of Maryland Statistics of Individual Income, TY 2018. See table in Equity Impact Analysis.

^{ix} Department of Legislative Services 2022 Fiscal Briefing

^x Gambale, 2021.

Morris, 2014.

^{xi} Leachman et al., 2018.

MD Tax Relief.pdf

Uploaded by: Wilma Fant

Position: UNF



Fantom
Travel Group

Wilma Fant

240-244-9330

Clinton, MD 20735

info@ftgtours.com ~ fantomtravelgroup@gmail.com

<https://ftgtours.com>

February 4, 2022

To Whom It May Concern:

I, Wilma Fant, vote to have the annual business tax filing fee of \$300.00 annually eliminated. For this creates an additional hardship on small business; especially doing this global pandemic.

Thank you for your consideration.

Wilma Fant