



Secular Maryland

secularmaryland@tutanota.com

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HB 853 - OPPOSE

Revival of Nonstock and Religious Corporations

Dear Chair Wilson, Vice-Chair Crosby, and Members of the Economic Matters Committee,

Our understanding is that Maryland religious corporations are nonstock corporations. The "A NONSTOCK CORPORATION OR RELIGIOUS CORPORATION" sentence fragment in this bill therefore appears to us to be redundant. Secular Maryland advocates for equal treatment under the law for similarly situated religious and secular institutions. Religious corporations are a subset of the secular non-profit corporation group. What is good for religious corporations will normally ipso facto be good for non-profit corporations more generally. If there is a need to reference an additional subset of corporations in this context then how about specifying non-profit corporations instead of singling out religious corporations?

Respectfully,
Mathew Goldstein
3838 Early Glow Ln
Bowie, MD