

MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Hon. Joseph M. Getty
Chief Judge

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, MD 21401

MEMORANDUM

TO: House Judiciary Committee
FROM: Legislative Committee
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.
410-260-1523
RE: Senate Bill 452
Small Claims – Examination in Aid of Enforcement – Prohibition
DATE: March 23, 2022
(3/30)
POSITION: Oppose

The Maryland Judiciary continues to oppose Senate Bill 452 as amended.

The Judiciary agrees that there should be a uniform procedure to enforce District Court orders in small claims actions. However, the method contemplated in Senate Bill 452 effectively eliminates the ability of parties to collect on judgements in small claims actions. Many self-represented individuals file small claim actions and by preventing individuals that have been successful in court from requiring the judgment debtor to be questioned in open court regarding bank accounts, assets or employment may effectively eliminate their ability to collect on the judgment.

cc. Hon. William Smith
Judicial Council
Legislative Committee
Kelley O'Connor