



January 28, 2022

The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair  
House Ways and Means Committee  
House Office Building, Room 131  
6 Bladen St,  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: Support for House Bill 268**

Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Washington and Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

**The Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation requests a FAVORABLE REPORT on House Bill 268.**

The bill would change the eligibility for exemptions from property tax filings with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. Increasing the maximum assessment from \$10,000 to \$20,000 will increase the number of home-based businesses that will be able to lower their tax burden.

The global pandemic caused many people working in traditional jobs to reassess the type of job they would like to do and many chose to start home-based businesses. This bill would provide relief for those businesses in the early phases. Home-based businesses are already prominent. In Anne Arundel County about three quarters of all businesses report no employees and many of those are independent proprietors working out of their home.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for a FAVORABLE REPORT on House Bill 268.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Birge".

Benjamin J. Birge  
President/CEO