

**SB0723.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Director Michael Higgs

Position: FAV

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**HEARING DATE:** March 7, 2023

**BILL:** SB0723

**TITLE:** Corporations and Associations - Electronic Copies Fee - Repeal

**SDAT POSITION:** SUPPORT

The State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) strongly supports SB0723. This Departmental legislative proposal would remove the \$1 per page fee for certain documents when they are delivered electronically.

Since Spring 2020, approximately 90% of all new business filings and 80% of all business filings are submitted online through SDAT's Maryland Business Express online filing platform. Many of these business filings are submitted online with a request for a certified copy of the filing. Once the business filing is approved for legal sufficiency by SDAT staff and it is included in the business filing registry, a .pdf of a certified copy of the approved filing is automatically emailed back to the filer.

Statute, as currently written, still requires that SDAT collect \$1 per page for copies of business filings, even when the copies are returned in this digital format. The \$1 per page fee is calculated by counting the number of pages in the .pdf. The assumed original intent of the \$1 per page fee was to capture the costs associated with copying, printing, and returning a physical copy of the document.

SB0723 removes this fee from online processed copy requests to align with the fact that fewer resources are being expended by SDAT to generate a certified copy of these documents when the request is submitted online.

For this reason, SDAT strongly urges a favorable vote on SB0723.

**MBIA Letter of Support SB 723.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lori Graf

Position: FAV

March 6, 2023

The Honorable Guy Guzzone  
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building,  
3 West Wing 11 Bladen St.,  
Annapolis, MD, 21401

**RE: Letter of Support SB0723 Corporations and Associations – Electronic Copies Fee – Repeal**

Dear Chairman Guzzone:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding **SB0723 Corporations and Associations – Electronic Copies Fee – Repeal**. **MBIA supports** the Act in its current version.

This bill repeals a \$1-per-page fee for electronic copies of certain documents recorded or filed with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. MBIA supports this measure, as it offloads an unnecessary cost and takes a burden off our industry. In the current economic climate, our members are looking to save money any way they can and this bill will do just that.

For these reasons, MBIA respectfully requests the Committee give this measure a **favorable** report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or [lgraf@marylandbuilders.org](mailto:lgraf@marylandbuilders.org).

cc: Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee