

INDEPENDENT INSURANCE AGENTS OF MARYLAND, INC.

DBA BIG I MARYLAND



House Economic Matters Committee

House Bill 355

Position: Unfavorable

Dear Chairman Wilson and the Members of the House Economic Matters Committee,

The Independent Insurance Agents of Maryland (BIGIMD) is the State's oldest trade association of independent insurance agents. It represents 200 independent agencies, which employ over 2000 people in the state. BIGIMD represents independent insurance agents and brokers who present consumers with a choice of policy options from a variety of different insurance companies. These small, medium, and large businesses offer a variety of insurance products – including property, casualty, life, health, employee benefit plans, and retirement products.

BIGIMD opposes House Bill 355, entitled Baltimore City Lifeline Low-Cost Automobile Insurance Program. Maryland has for many decades had a robust and competitive automobile insurance market. Over the past several years, more and more insurers are writing coverage once thought not to be possible in the past. Insurers are becoming more sophisticated in their understanding of a given risk and are therefore more able to make coverage offerings.

As such, we respectfully ask for an unfavorable report on HB 355.

Sincerely,
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