

February 6, 2023

The Honorable CT. Wilson
House Economic Matters Committee
House Office Building, Room 231,
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD, 21401

RE: HB 171 Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Filing Fees

Dear Chairman Wilson:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding **HB 171 Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Filing Fees**. **MBIA Supports** the Act in its current version.

This bill would eliminate filing fees for certain annual reports paid by business entities to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation if the annual report is filed electronically or the business entity does not report any personal property for which property tax is owed. MBIA respectfully supports this measure. The electronic filing of annual reports is both good for the environment in the sense that it requires the use of less paper and makes the whole process of filing and reviewing annual reports much more efficient. The cost to file should be reflective of these savings and MBIA supports the elimination of filing fees in order to incentivize this behavior and reduce costs both for the Department of Assessments and Taxation and private entities that file the reports.

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.

cc: Members of the House Economic Matters Committee