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CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Cecil County Administration Building
200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, MD 21921

February 27, 2023

The Honorable Melony Griffith
The Honorable Katherine Klausmeier
Finance Committee
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 0555 – Fair Wage Act of 2023
Letter of Opposition

Dear Chairwoman Griffith, Vice Chair Klausmeier, and Members of the Finance Committee:


The County Council and the County Executive of Cecil County unanimously oppose SB 0555 – Fair Wage Act of 2023. The hearing on this legislation is scheduled on March 2, 2023.

It is our understanding that this legislation will increase the State minimum wage rate in effect for certain periods of time; increasing, except under certain circumstances, the State minimum wage rate in effect for certain periods of time based on annual growth in a certain consumer price index; altering the authority of the Board of Public Works to temporarily suspend an increase in the minimum wage rate; and repealing the requirement that the Governor's budgets for certain fiscal years include certain provider rate increases.

Cecil County is concerned that increasing the minimum wage based on the consumer price index will cause economic harm to our business by mandating wages that may not have been budgeted for that year. We believe that this act could adversely affect economic development in our State and place an undue burden on our existing business owners.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully requests that the Finance Committee send an unfavorable report on SB 0555.

Sincerely,


Danielle Hornberger
County Executive


Jackie Gregory
President of County Council