
To: Economic Matters
From: John C. Dove, Jr.,
Commissioner of Occupational and Professional Licensing
Re: HB 859 Real Estate Brokers – Licensing – License Renewals and Continuing Education
Date: February 28, 2024

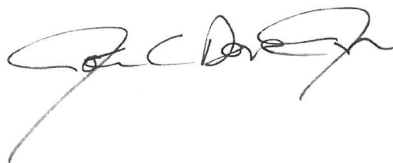
Dear Chair Wilson and the Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Maryland Real Estate Commission I am writing to respectfully support with amendments to HB 859, entitled “Real Estate Brokers – Licensing – License Renewals and Continuing Education.” This legislation repeals certain processes regarding the expiration of certain licenses for real estate brokers, associate real estate brokers, and real estate salespersons; requiring that certain licenses expire on a staggered basis; repeals a requirement that certain ethics courses discuss certain flipping and fraudulent practices; altering certain regulatory requirements for conducting certain continuing education courses; repeals certain requirements for completion and submission of certain continuing education courses; and requires that certain entities submit certain continuing education course information to the Commission under certain circumstances.

The Commission is in support of the legislation with the exception of page 3 lines 20 – 22 (3) “A licensee who fails to comply with paragraph (1)(IV) of the subsection shall be subject to a reasonable processing fee set by the Commission.” The Commission requests paragraph (1)(IV) be replaced with paragraph (E)(4) and “reasonable processing fee” be replaced with a “reinstatement fee” set by the Commission because a licensee is required to pay a reinstatement fee at the time of the expiration of a license. According to current Board policy, continuing education providers have up to three days to upload the licensees continuing education credits. It is not necessary for the Commission to charge a reasonable processing fee for work that is not being performed (i.e. uploading continuing education credits).

For these reasons, the Maryland Real Estate Commission respectfully requests a favorable report with amendments from the Committee on HB 859.

Sincerely,



John C. Dove, Jr.
Commissioner
Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing



Raquel M. Meyers
Executive Director
Maryland Real Estate Commission