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Dear House Committee Members,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to HB 1515, which seeks to lower the tax rate in the state of Maryland while imposing sales tax on services. As the owner of a small professional pet sitting company serving the Greater Annapolis area, I am deeply concerned about the potential impact this bill would have on my business and my clients.

All of the services provided by my company are purely service based; we do not sell goods. Many of my clients rely on our services on a daily basis to ensure the well-being of their beloved pets. Implementing a sales tax on these essential services would not only be financially detrimental to my small business, but it would also place an undue burden on my clients, many of whom are average families with limited budgets.

Furthermore, the administrative burden that would come with managing and collecting sales tax on services would be overwhelming for a small business like mine. It would require significant time and resources that I simply do not have, diverting my attention away from providing quality care to the animals under my supervision.

Passing HB 1515 would force my clients to reconsider using my services altogether, as they would now be faced with additional costs that they cannot afford. This would not only harm my business but also deprive pet owners in our community of a trusted and reliable service that they rely on.

I urge you to consider the impact that this bill would have on small businesses like mine. As a woman-owned small business, I implore you to vote Against HB 1515 and protect the livelihoods of hardworking entrepreneurs in our state.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Sharon Wanamaker