

March 7, 2024

The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair
House Ways & Means Committee
Room 131
Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: HB1515, Sales and Use Tax- Rate Reduction and Services

Dear Chairwoman Atterbeary & Committee Members,

My purpose in writing is to offer my strongest opposition to House Bil 1515, Sales and Use Tax- Rate Reduction and Services.

This historic increase in the Marland Sales and Use tax couldn't possibly come at a worse time in the business cycle.

A large part of our business is labor based and add additional cost to our customers will make difficult sales even harder.

Our national economy is still facing serious uncertainty due to the affects of inflation. Our employee costs have risen dramatically due to compensation and benefit mandates from the federal and state government. Our cost-of-goods has grown significantly, yet consumer confidence is still affected by the recent global pandemic.

One of my biggest concerns is that any business located in Frederick County is impacted by our proximity to nearby states (PA, VA and WVA) who's economies are not burdened by risgin sales taxes on goods and services the same way that we will be should HB1515 become law.

Please reject this economy-stifling and job-killing initiative by issuing an UNFAVORABLE committee report on HB1515.

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