JUSTIN READY
Legislative District 5
Carroll County

MINORITY WHIP

Finance Committee



James Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street, Room 315 Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3683 · 301-858-3683 800-492-7122 Ext. 3683 Justin.Ready@senate.state.md.us

## February 5, 2024

## Senator Justin Ready SB 415 Carroll County – Office of Permits and Inspections - Denial of Permit or License for Unpaid Personal Property Taxes

Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Budget and Tax Committee:

Senate Bill 415 would prohibit Carroll County Office of Permits and Inspections from issuing or renewing a license or permit until the applicant provides satisfactory evidence that the are no unpaid assessed personal property taxes.

On September 21, 2023, in an effort to collect delinquent taxes, the Carroll County Board of Commissioners approved the policy to reserve the right to withhold the issuance of permits requested by business owners that have unpaid assessed personal property taxes.

Carroll County does not currently have an efficient or effective mechanism to hold businesses responsible for unpaid property taxes, therefore businesses can continue to operate without penalty for failure to pay this tax. Currently, the only option to enforce payment of these taxes requires the County Attorney's Office to pursue a court proceeding which is slow, expensive, and considerable administrative expense to the county.

The Carroll County delegation respectfully requests a favorable on SB 415.