



SB 425 – State Archives – Record Services - Fees

Committee: Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

Date: February 18, 2026

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Bankers Association (MBA) **SUPPORTS** SB 425. This legislation requires the State Archives to establish certain fees for the preservation and care of records by regulation, which is a practical, responsible step toward ensuring that the State Archives remains a modern, well funded, reliable, and transparent institution. MBA supports a reasonable fee schedule that covers the actual costs of maintaining and modernizing Maryland’s land record system rather than agency-wide operations that should be General Fund obligations.

Mortgage lenders, title companies, and loan processors complete thousands of transactions annually. They depend on accurate, accessible, and efficiently managed public records—especially those related to property transactions, mortgage lending, lien records, and other essential financial documentation—to complete these transactions. Reliable records reduce delays in settlements, reduce title errors, and lower the risk of disputes.

Consistent fee structures—established through regulation rather than ad hoc charges—allow financial institutions to budget accurately and avoid unexpected cost fluctuations. Accordingly, MBA urges the issuance of a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 425.

The Maryland Bankers Association (MBA) represents FDIC-insured community, regional, and national banks, employing thousands of Marylanders and holding \$194.8 billion in deposits in over 1,100 branches across our State. The Maryland banking industry serves customers across the State and provides an array of financial services including residential mortgage lending, business banking, estates and trust services, consumer banking, and more.