



House Bill 179

Position: Favorable

Committee: Economic Matters and Government, Labor, and Elections

Date: February 17, 2026

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members and federated partners working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic recovery and growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

House Bill 179 (HB 179) requires the Department of Commerce to establish a portal on the Department's website to receive complaints from businesses and individuals who have waited longer than 60 days to receive licenses, forms, certificates, permits, or registrations.

The Maryland Chamber consistently hears from businesses across Maryland that have experienced prolonged waiting periods for building permits and licenses. Slow permitting and licensing times restrict development and drive investment to other states. **For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 179.**