



## Ocean City, Maryland Chamber of Commerce

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### TESTIMONY OFFERED ON BEHALF OF THE GREATER OCEAN CITY MARYLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### UNFAVORABLE ON: SB0686 – PFAS Chemicals – Product Phase Outs and Registration Requirements

**Before:**  
**Senate Education, Energy & the Environment Committee**  
**Hearing: 2/24/2026 at 1:00 PM**

The Greater Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, representing more than 700 regional businesses and job creators, is **STRONGLY OPPOSED to Senate Bill SB0686 – PFAS Chemicals – Product Phase Outs and Registration Requirements**. This bill provides for sweeping policies that effectively ban the sale of hundreds of everyday products in Ocean City and around the State. It requires manufacturers to register products, impose new fees, and potentially submit testing data to keep selling in the State. The bill targets products containing polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) — a class of widely used chemicals found across modern supply chains. They’ve been used for decades to make products resistant to heat, water, grease, and corrosion. They appear in cookware, cleaning supplies, medical devices, textiles, furniture, electronics, vehicles, and more.

For many of our local businesses, that could mean tracing materials several layers deep, renegotiating contracts, reformulating products, or pulling items from shelves. Given the effective date of the bill, October 1, 2026, the scale and speed matters. These requirements could drive operational shifts, cost increases, and product disruptions to our businesses and the consumers.

**2/20/2026**

**SB0686**

The Chamber is also concerned about the scope of the registration requirements and the potential liability placed on importers and distributors if original manufacturers do not have a U.S. presence. This could shift compliance responsibility onto Maryland-based businesses that do not control product formulation.

Many businesses do not have full visibility into chemical inputs several layers deep in the supply chain. Identifying alternatives, testing materials, renegotiating contracts, and adjusting inventory will take time and resources. The timelines proposed in **SB0686 do not reflect these realities.**

For the above reasons, including the economic and operational impact **SB0686** would have on our small business, the Greater Ocean City Chamber respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE REPORT on SB0686.** Please feel free to contact the Chamber directly on 410-213-0144 should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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