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NFIB-Maryland – 60 West St., Suite 101 – Annapolis, MD 21401 – [www.NFIB.com/Maryland](http://www.NFIB.com/Maryland)

TO: Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: NFIB – Maryland

DATE: February 24, 2026

RE: **OPPOSE SENATE BILL 686** – PFAS Chemicals – Product Phase Outs and Registration Requirements

Founded in 1943, NFIB is the voice of small business, advocating on behalf of America’s small and independent business owners, both in Washington, D.C., and in all 50 state capitals. With more than 250,000 members nationwide, and nearly 4,000 here in Maryland, we work to protect and promote the ability of our members to grow and operate their business.

On behalf of Maryland’s small businesses, NFIB opposes Senate Bill 686 – legislation that would effectively ban certain PFAS chemicals in specified products, create a product registry, and .

This bill creates several problems for small businesses, both from a manufacturing and retail standpoint.

On the manufacturing side, small manufacturers that currently use PFAS would face significant costs to identify alternatives, change formulations, retool production lines, or adapt supply chains. As stipulated in the bill, these items include textiles, food packaging, cleaning products, and other specialty items.

Also, for small manufacturers, the registry contemplated in SB686 comes with inherent difficulties for small businesses. Namely, documentation and managing supplier certifications.

For retailers, SB686 will create supply issues, confusion, and a risk of holding unsellable inventory.

PFAS are embedded in many industrial and commercial materials. Finding replacements that meet performance needs and client & customer expectations will generally create upward supply chain issues. These would disproportionately affect small businesses who many not have the same market share or purchasing power as larger firms that will also be competing for these replacements.

It is important to point out that small business owners ranked “Cost of Supplies/Inventories” 2<sup>nd</sup> on the “Measures of Small Business Problem Importance” in the most recent [Problems & Priorities](#) report by NFIB. Owners also ranked “Unreasonable Government Regulations” 7<sup>th</sup> in the same report. Legislation like SB686 would add to the sort of concerns that small business owners tell us about it.

For these reasons, **NFIB opposes SB686** and requests an unfavorable report.