

SB0757_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

03/05/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON SB#/0757- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Consumer Protection - Disclosure of Tariffs and Local Sourcing

TO: Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and members of the Finance Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#/0757, **Consumer Protection - Disclosure of Tariffs and Local Sourcing**

The tariffs unconstitutionally applied by the Federal Administration are harming both consumers and businesses.

This bill will define as an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practices any

- Act or omission that relates to a residential building and that is chargeable as a misdemeanor under or otherwise violates a provision of the Energy Conservation Building Standards Act
- failure to disclose that the price of a consumer good includes a tariff imposed on the consumer good or on components of the consumer good and the amount of the tariff

A business entity that is headquartered in the state; or has a principal place of business located in the state will have a new resource for controlling tariff costs, the Maryland local sourcing portal. The “tariff-impacted goods” are commodities, supplies, or raw materials identified by the secretary as subject to federal import duties or trade volatility. Maryland will assist businesses in the state by developing and maintaining a searchable online database, to be known as the Maryland local sourcing portal, to connect businesses in the state with local sources for tariff-impacted goods and other supplies.

This bill will prohibit a person from not making a certain disclosure on the price of a consumer good; requiring the Department of Commerce to develop and maintain a searchable online database to connect businesses in the State with local sources for supplies and inventory; and requiring the Department to report on or before December 31 each year on the use and effectiveness of the database.

Maryland can benefit both businesses and consumers by offering both protection from the increases in costs due to tariffs.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#/0757.