



House Bill 334 -- *State Procurement - Constitutional Violations - Prohibited*
House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
February 10, 2026
Oppose

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC), the voice of business in Metro Maryland, opposes House Bill 334 -- *State Procurement - Constitutional Violations – Prohibited*.

House Bill 334 requires a procurement officer, as a condition to submitting a bid or proposal on a State procurement, to certify that the bidder or offeror: (1) is not engaging in any actions that violate the U.S. Constitution; and (2) will refrain from engaging in any actions that violate the U.S. Constitution or the Maryland Constitution for the duration of the contractual obligations.

While MCCC recognizes that the bill's objective is well-intended, we are concerned that the legislation could create uncertainty and confusion about how to interpret what constitutes an action that violates the U.S. or Maryland Constitution. This uncertainty may make the procurement process more complex at a time when the State should be enhancing its support of local businesses, including those in the government contracting sector.

The Chamber contends that unintendedly this bill's ambiguity could introduce hesitation in bidding, particularly for smaller firms who may be concerned by additional administrative and compliance burdens and ready access to legal counsel. These concerns may inadvertently lead to a reduction in the number of qualified bidders participating in procurement opportunities. There is also concern that introducing requirements not typically found in other states could have a chilling effect on Maryland's business competitiveness.

For these reasons, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce opposes House Bill 334 and respectfully requests an unfavorable report.

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC), on behalf of its members, champions the growth of business opportunities, strategic infrastructure investments, and a strong workforce to position Metro Maryland as a premier regional, national, and global business location. Established in 1959, MCCC is an independent, non-profit membership organization.

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