



February 17th 2026

HB 690: FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Wilkins and Members of the House Ways & Means Committee:

On behalf of the Harford County Chamber of Commerce and our broad and diverse membership of employers, nonprofit organizations, and community partners, we are pleased to offer our support for **House Bill 690**.

The Harford Chamber’s mission is to advocate, connect, and educate in ways that strengthen our local economy and enhance Maryland’s overall business climate. HB 690 represents a thoughtful step toward advancing policies that promote economic vitality, responsible growth, and long-term competitiveness for our state.

From the Chamber’s perspective, **HB 690** supports a pro-business environment by encouraging innovation, improving operational efficiencies, and/or fostering strategic investment that benefits both employers and employees. Policies that provide clarity, consistency, and forward-looking solutions allow businesses—particularly small and mid-sized enterprises—to plan with confidence, expand responsibly, and create quality jobs.

Specifically, HB 690 will help:

- Strengthen Maryland’s economic competitiveness;
- Provide greater predictability and stability for employers;
- Support job creation and business retention; and
- Enhance collaboration between the public and private sectors to achieve shared economic goals.

We appreciate that **HB 690** reflects an understanding of the real-world impact legislation can have on employers and workforce development efforts across the state. For these reasons, the Harford County Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 690.

Sincerely,

Angela M. Rose
President & CEO
Harford County Chamber of Commerce

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