



House Bill 905

Date: February 26, 2026
Committee: Ways and Means
Position: Unfavorable

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members and federated partners, and we work to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

House Bill 905 (HB 905) would require state and local governments, and businesses that receive public funds, to submit detailed annual reports to the Comptroller on how those funds are used, including information on contractors, subcontractors, and employment characteristics. The bill also ties certain reporting requirements to individual and corporate income tax filings, significantly expanding existing disclosure obligations.

We appreciate the intent of the bill to increase transparency around the use of State and local government funds. Transparency and accountability are important goals, and Maryland already has numerous procurement, auditing, and reporting requirements designed to ensure public dollars are used appropriately.

However, HB 905 would impose new and duplicative reporting obligations on businesses that contract with State and local governments. These expanded disclosures, particularly those linked to tax filings, would add administrative complexity and compliance costs for employers, especially small and mid-sized businesses, without clear evidence that the additional data collection would meaningfully improve oversight or policy outcomes.

Maryland businesses that partner with government already navigate extensive compliance requirements, and layering additional mandates on top of existing systems risks discouraging participation in public contracts and diverting resources away from investment, hiring, and growth.

For these reasons, the Chamber respectfully requests an **unfavorable report** on **HB 905**.