

January 26, 2024

Economic Matters Committee The Honorable Delegate C. T. Wilson Room 231 House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

HB 0244 - Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Act - Civil Penalties - Alterations - Oppose

Dear Delegate Wilson:

This bill will alter civil penalties for violations of the Maryland Occupational Safety and Health Act by raising and annually increasing the maximum and minimum civil penalties charged to employers found to have violated MOSH regulations.

The initial increase more than doubles current penalties. It seems that this is meant to be more punitive than corrective in nature. We fail to see how relying on penalties rather than education and corrective action will improve workplace safety.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of nearly 700 members, opposes this bill and therefore requests that you give it an unfavorable report.

Sincerely,

mike mcMallin

Mike McMullin President Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Senator Justin Ready Delegate April Rose