



January 26, 2024

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

HB 0339 - Unemployment Insurance - Disqualification - Stoppage of Work Caused by Labor Dispute - **Oppose**

Dear Delegate Wilson:

HB 0339 will remove the disqualification from receiving unemployment insurance benefits due to a stoppage of work if that stoppage continues beyond the first 14 days. This will apply to a situation that exists because of a labor dispute at the premises where the individual was last employed.

Forcing all Maryland employers (and taxpayers) to pay for the circumstances of a unionized employer involved in a labor dispute should be out of bounds. Each year the Maryland General Assembly puts forth numerous bills that make it more and more difficult to do business in Maryland. This bill will only contribute to that difficulty in a very unfair and expensive manner.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike McMullin'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Senator Justin Ready
Delegate April Rose