



Date: January 27, 2026

Government, Labor, and Elections
Delegate Melissa Wells
145 Lowe
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB 0045 – Mandatory Meetings on Religious or Political Matters - Employee Attendance and Participation (Maryland Worker Freedom Act) – Oppose as Written

Dear Delegate Wells:

HB 0045 would prohibit employers from requiring attendance at meetings regarding religious or political matters. This appears to include membership in labor organizations as “political”.

While the Carroll County Chamber would agree that meetings on the subject of religious or truly political matters should not be foisted upon employees in a mandatory fashion, an employer *should* have a right to express its opinion about the benefits or drawbacks to employees of unionizing or not unionizing the workplace. In a matter that has such wide-ranging consequences for a business, it should be able to ensure that all employees hear its message.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of nearly 700 members, opposes this bill as written. We therefore request that you give this bill an unfavorable report, unless amended as noted above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike McMullin".

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Delegate Chris Tomlinson
Senator Justin Ready