

ALLEGANY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BELL TOWER BUILDING ■ 24 FREDERICK STREET ■ CUMBERLAND, MD 21502
301-722-2820 ■ FAX 301-722-5995
E-MAIL: info@alleganycountychamber.com



March 2, 2016

The Honorable Thomas M. Middleton, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 472 – Labor and Employment – Maryland Healthy Working Families Act

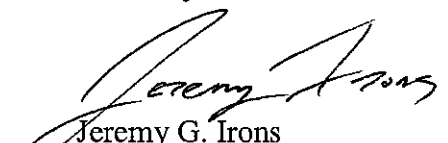
Dear Chairman Middleton:

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests that the Finance Committee give an Unfavorable Report to Senate Bill 472 – Labor and Employment – Maryland Healthy Working Families Act.

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce opposes SB 472 as the proposed policy will create costly intended and unintended consequences for businesses. As drafted, the bill does not contain exemptions for small businesses that will be disproportionately affected by this legislation. In addition, the bill does not include provisions to address or prevent abuse or fraud and there are several provisions that appear to conflict with the current Family Medical Leave Act. Despite its good intentions, the proposed policy creates numerous negative consequences to businesses and will further drive businesses away from the State of Maryland.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Jeremy G. Irons
Legislative Committee Chair


Stuart C. Czapski
Executive Director

cc: Honorable John C. Astle, Vice Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Senate Finance Committee Members
Western Maryland Delegation