



**House Bill 171 -- *Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Filing Fees***  
**House Economic Matters Committee**  
**February 8, 2023**  
**Support**

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC), the voice of business in Metro Maryland, supports House Bill 171 -- *Corporations and Associations – Annual Reports – Filing Fees*.

House Bill 171 waives the filing fees paid by corporations and other business entities to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation for electronically filed annual reports beginning in Fiscal Year 2024. The bill also waives the filing fee for business entities that do not report any personal property for which property tax is owed.

MCCC seeks to improve Maryland's business climate by finding solutions that lower the cost of doing business and create a more customer-oriented approach in transactions between businesses and the State of Maryland. House Bill 171 accomplishes both.

By eliminating fees of annual reports that are filed electronically, House Bill 171 makes Maryland's business climate more competitive by lowering business costs. Furthermore, eliminating filing fees for reports that are filed electronically acknowledges that these types of fees are typically meant to pay for the cost of administering transactions between government and business. Electronic filing of reports should be encouraged because they create efficiencies and reduce administrative costs.

**For these reasons, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce supports House Bill 171 and respectfully requests a favorable report.**

*The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of our nearly 500 members, advocates for growth in business opportunities, strategic investment in infrastructure, and balanced tax reform to advance Metro Maryland as a regional, national, and global location for business success. Established in 1959, MCCC is an independent non-profit membership organization and a proud Montgomery County Green Certified Business.*

*Brian Levine | Vice President of Government Affairs  
Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce  
51 Monroe Street | Suite 1800  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
301-738-0015 | [www.mcccmd.com](http://www.mcccmd.com)*