



To Lead, Advocate and Connect as the Voice of Business

Senate Bill 173: State Government - Regulations Impacting Small Businesses

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

February 7, 2019

SUPPORT

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC) accelerates the success of our over 400 members by advocating for increased 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 is proud to be a Montgomery County Green Certified Business.

Senate Bill 173 requires State agencies to establish an electronic registry, notification system, and compliance guides for proposed regulations that are expected to have a significant small business impact. State agencies must consider specified mitigation options when assessing civil penalties on small businesses. The Department of Budget and Management (DBM) must provide related training at least once every two years.

The Chamber appreciates and strongly supports the goals of this legislation, including making it easier for small businesses and their trade associations to have input on the regulations that affect them. Further, it will assist small businesses in compliance with regulations by having State agencies provide a clear explanation on what small businesses need to do to comply with new regulations.

This legislation will improve the quality of the small business economic impact analyses conducted by State agencies by better identifying regulations that may affect small businesses in order to consider less restrictive and burdensome regulatory alternatives for small businesses. It also shifts the emphasis of enforcing regulations from being punitive on small businesses to helping small businesses be in compliance with regulations.

For these reasons, we request a **favorable report on Senate Bill 173.**