



Maryland Chamber of Commerce

Legislative Position

**SB 726
OPPOSE**

**Judicial
Proceedings
Committee
3/5/09**

SB 726

Corporations and Associations – Address and Principal Office - Definitions

Bill Summary: This bill would require every business entity created under Maryland law or qualified to do business in this state, and the resident agents of such entities, to notify the State Department of Assessments and Taxation of an address that (1) specifies a physical location where the entity regularly conducts business; and (2) at which the entity, or an employee of the entity is physically present.

Chamber Position: The Maryland Chamber of Commerce opposes this bill, which in its current form, appears to be ambiguously drafted and could cause unintended problems for business entities. The intent of the bill seems to be to obtain a street address for all domestic and foreign entities that do business in Maryland. However, by amending the defined term “address”, which is used throughout the Corporations and Associations Article, the bill appears to have inadvertently prohibited an entity from ever using a Post Office Box number for mail delivery. The reason for the bill is also unclear, as the Department has had a longstanding policy of not accepting a Post Office Box number as a principal office location.

We believe that the proponents of the bill, working with interested stakeholders in the State Bar and business community, can develop a more sound solution to this issue if allowed to do so over the 2009 Interim.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber urges that this bill be given an unfavorable report.

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