



Consumer Credit Counseling Service of MD & DE, Inc.
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HB 772: Courts—Judgments—Exemptions from Execution

Position: Favorable

February 22, 2021

To Whom it May Concern:

As President/CEO of Consumer Credit Counseling Service of Maryland and Delaware, Inc., CCCSMD has provided thousands Maryland residents with financial education, debt management and budgeting tools to improve their financial well-being since 1966. We also advocate for consumer protection legislation whenever possible and in this regard I am writing today in support of HB 772.

This Bill proposes an amendment to existing law that exempts from garnishment of up to \$2,600 in a deposit account or other account of the debtor without debtor election. It also reaffirms the exemption cap of \$6,000 in cumulative value of cash and selected items of personal property of the debtor.

The unprecedented economic downturn brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on millions of hard-working Marylanders. This legislation is intended to expand protections to those, who through no fault of their own, have fallen behind on their debts. While it affirms the right of creditors to collect under a judgment, it provides for a liquidity cushion to ensure that debtors will be able to meet basic necessities such as food, shelter, and transportation so they won't slip into the abyss of unemployment and homelessness.

We fully support this bill and urge you to do the same.

Sincerely,

Helene D. Raynaud

President/CEO