

*Danielle Hornberger*  
County Executive

Steven Overbay  
Acting Director of Administration

Office: 410.996.5202  
Email: [dhornberger@ccgov.org](mailto:dhornberger@ccgov.org)



Jackie Gregory  
Council President

Robert Meffley  
Vice President

Office: 410.996.5201  
Email: [council@ccgov.org](mailto:council@ccgov.org)

**CECIL COUNTY GOVERNMENT**  
Cecil County Administration Building  
200 Chesapeake Boulevard, Elkton, MD 21921

February 22, 2023

The Honorable C. T. Wilson  
The Honorable Brain M. Crosby  
Economic Matters Committee  
Room 231  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 0549 – Fair Wage Act of 2023  
Letter of Opposition

Dear Chairman Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby and Members of the Economic Matters Committee:

The County Council and the County Executive of Cecil County unanimously oppose HB 0549 – Fair Wage Act of 2023. The hearing on this legislation is scheduled on February 27, 2023.

It is our understanding that this legislation will increase the State minimum wage rate in effect for certain periods of time; increasing, except under certain circumstances, the State minimum wage rate in effect for certain periods of time based on annual growth in a certain consumer price index; altering the authority of the Board of Public Works to temporarily suspend an increase in the minimum wage rate; and repealing the requirement that the Governor's budgets for certain fiscal years include certain provider rate increases.

Cecil County is concerned that increasing the minimum wage based on the consumer price index will cause economic harm to our business by mandating wages that may not have been budgeted for that year. We believe that this act could adversely affect economic development in our State and place an undue burden on our existing business owners.

The County Executive and County Council of Cecil County respectfully requests that the Environment and Transportation Committee send an unfavorable report on HB 0549.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hornberger".

Danielle Hornberger  
County Executive

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jackie Gregory".

Jackie Gregory  
President of County Council