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National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys Supports Advancement of Maryland Bankruptcy Reform Legislation

Annapolis, MD — March 30, 2026 — The National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) today announced continued support for House Bill 1520, legislation aimed at modernizing Maryland’s outdated exemption laws and strengthening financial protections for working families.

HB 1520 passed the Maryland House of Delegates with overwhelming bipartisan support by a vote of 137–0 and has now advanced to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee for consideration on March 31st.

NACBA has been actively engaged throughout the legislative process, submitting testimony before both the House Judiciary Committee and the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee in support of the bill.

The legislation represents a significant step toward updating Maryland’s exemption framework to better reflect current economic realities. As outlined in NACBA’s testimony, the bill includes critical provisions to:

- Increase protections for essential household goods and personal property
- Establish meaningful safeguards for reliable transportation tied to employment and education
- Protect key federal tax credits, including the Child Tax Credit and Earned Income Tax Credit
- Strengthen protections for seniors and individuals living with disabilities

The bill was reported favorably out of the House Judiciary Committee with amendments, which included technical and clarifying changes to definitions and eligibility standards, as well as modifications to certain exemption provisions.

“Modern, fair exemption laws are essential to ensuring that bankruptcy provides a true opportunity for financial recovery,” said Krista D’Amelio, NACBA’s Director of Government Affairs. “HB 1520 helps ensure that Maryland families can maintain stability, preserve essential assets, and rebuild after financial hardship.”



NACBA will continue to work with lawmakers and stakeholders as the bill moves through the Senate and remains committed to advocating for policies that protect consumer debtors and strengthen the bankruptcy system.

About NACBA

The National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys (NACBA) is the only national organization dedicated to supporting consumer bankruptcy attorneys and protecting the rights of consumer debtors. Formed in 1992, NACBA now has more than 1,500 members located in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

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