



Maryland Municipal League

The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 7, 2023

Committee: House Environment & Transportation

Bill: Housing and Community Development - Adaptive Reuse

Position: Support

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports House Bill 150, which enables the construction of new affordable multifamily housing through loan incentives for the adaptive reuse of existing buildings.

The State is currently experiencing a housing crisis that affects every income level, especially middle- and low-income residents. Local governments can only do so much with our limited resources; new tools, like loan programs for adaptive reuse, are necessary and helpful in solving this problem.

Furthermore, improvements to existing structures add increased value to other properties, often resulting in increased assessments that provide added property tax revenues to local governments and the State. Similarly, commercial rehabilitation projects create jobs that translate into increased income taxes shared by both local governments and the State.

The League supports the expansion of these loans for the rehabilitation of existing structures as a valuable tool to help promote affordable and attainable housing opportunities in cities and towns across the State. As such, the League respectfully requests that this committee provide HB 150 with a favorable report.

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