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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Testimony of Senator Hayes in Support of Senate Bill 371: Baltimore City - Commercial Use - Definition

February 21, 2023

Chairman Feldman and members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Senate Bill 371 seeks to provide state level interpretation of allowable uses in a commercial district adjacent to a waterfront within an appropriate radius from a railway station. It would define commercial use to include multifamily residential development if the development is located within a waterfront commercial zoning district and a 0.50 mile radius of a commuter rail station.

While the Baltimore City Council, Planning Commission, and Mayor Scott's administration will have an active role reviewing development plans along Baltimore's waterfront, this bill will ensure the State's interest in promoting tourism, a clean harbor, and a healthy Chesapeake Bay are represented as major drivers in the State's economy.

I urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 371.

Respectfully,

Senator Antonio L. Hayes 40th Legislative District – MD