



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 0356

**Land Use—Expedited Development Review Processes for Affordable
Housing Requirements
Education, Energy and the Environment Committees**

FAVORABLE

TO: Senator Muse

FROM: Heather East, Chase Home, Inc. and Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network

DATE: January 31, 2024

The Chase Home, Inc. and Episcopal Church supports Senate Bill 0356 to expedite the review process for Affordable Housing Development.

We urge the Committee to issue a favorable report on HB 0356 to expedite the Development Review Processes for Affordable Housing Requirements.

The Chase Home, Inc. is pleased to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of the SB 0356. As a member of the Maryland Affordable Housing Coalition and Anne Arundel Affordable Housing Coalition and host to the inaugural Anne Arundel County Affordable Housing Symposium where stakeholders in housing and community development gathered together to better understand affordable housing issues, the Chase Home advocates for better affordable housing legislation and programs that fund innovative affordable housing projects. One of our symposium speakers, Anne Arundel County Housing Commissioner Clifton Martin, provided some informative and thought-provoking information on the challenges of funding housing project in Anne Arundel County, particularly the development review process for affordable housing. This bill would expedite the Affordable Housing Development Requirement Processes offering developers a quicker review process to correct the shortage in affordable housing.

For the reasons noted above, we urge a FAVORABLE report on SB 0356.