

1-25-2024

Ways & Means Committee
Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary
Room 131
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB12 – Property Tax Credit – Retail Service Station Conversions – SUPPORT

Dear Committee Chair Vanessa E. Atterbeary,

The Charles County Chamber of Commerce is a business advocacy organization with over 500 members. Our Legislative Committee has reviewed HB12 and has voted to support the proposed legislation.

HB12 would authorize the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City or the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to grant, by law, a credit against the county or municipal corporations property tax imposed on real property if use of the real property has been converted from a retail service station to other certain uses; and requiring the state to pay each county or municipal corporation that grants the property tax credit under the act an amount equal to a 50% of forgone revenue.

Redevelopment of service station properties and incentivizing the conversion to more economically desirable uses would revitalize abandoned locations, provide opportunities for the expansion of existing businesses and the establishment of new businesses. The tax credit investment would eventually be offset by the increased future property tax revenue and more desirable economic activity.

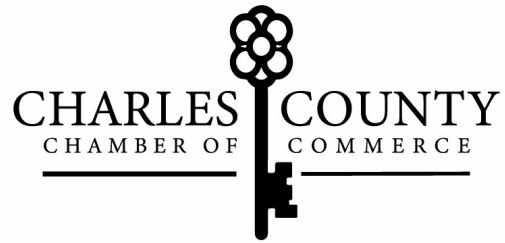
For these reasons, we therefore, respectfully request that your committee give this bill a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathryn E. Guzman-Russell".

Kathy Guzman-Russell
President & CEO
Charles County Chamber of Commerce

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CC: Delegate Jheanelle K. Wilkins, Vice Chair, Ways & Means Committee
Delegate Edith J. Patterson
Delegate Debra M. Davis
Delegate C.T. Wilson
Delegate Kevin M. Harris
Senator Arthur C. Ellis
Senator Michael A. Jackson