

SENATE BILL 906

C9

4lr3351

By: **Senator Augustine**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2024

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Housing and Community Development – Conversion of Commercial Buildings**
3 **for Residential Use – Report**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring each county and Baltimore City to inventory vacant
5 commercial buildings, develop a plan to convert vacant commercial buildings for
6 residential use, and submit a report to the Department of Housing and Community
7 Development; requiring the Department to establish and maintain a certain
8 database; and generally relating to converting vacant commercial buildings for
9 residential use.

10 BY adding to

11 Article – Housing and Community Development
12 Section 6–105
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
16 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Housing and Community Development**

18 **6–105.**

19 **(A) (1) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2025, EACH COUNTY AND BALTIMORE**
20 **CITY SHALL:**

21 **(I) INVENTORY THE NUMBER OF VACANT COMMERCIAL**
22 **BUILDINGS IN THE COUNTY OR BALTIMORE CITY;**

23 **(II) DEVELOP A PLAN FOR CONVERTING VACANT COMMERCIAL**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 BUILDINGS IN THE COUNTY OR BALTIMORE CITY FOR RESIDENTIAL USE; AND

2 (III) SUBMIT A REPORT CONTAINING THE INVENTORY AND PLAN
3 TO THE DEPARTMENT.

4 (2) (I) EACH COUNTY AND BALTIMORE CITY SHALL UPDATE THE
5 REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(III) OF THIS SUBSECTION EVERY 2
6 YEARS.

7 (II) THE UPDATE REQUIRED UNDER THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL
8 INCLUDE:

9 1. A NEW INVENTORY OF VACANT COMMERCIAL
10 BUILDINGS;

11 2. ANY CHANGES MADE TO THE PLAN DEVELOPED
12 UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION; AND

13 3. DETAILS OF ANY PROGRESS MADE IN CONVERTING
14 VACANT COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS FOR RESIDENTIAL USE.

15 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN A DATABASE OF
16 VACANT COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS IN THE STATE THAT HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO BE
17 CONVERTED FOR RESIDENTIAL USE.

18 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
19 1, 2024.