



Maryland DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING

HEARING DATE: January 29, 2020

BILL NO: SB0148

COMMITTEE: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

POSITION: Letter of Information

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Adam Gruz (410) 767-4613

TITLE: Board of Public Works – Land Acquisition – Requirements

BILL ANALYSIS:

Senate Bill 148 prohibits the BPW from acquiring real property that has an appraised value of \$500,000 or more unless the BPW has provided documentation to the Legislative Policy Committee regarding the justification, cost-benefit analysis, and for federal properties, a study of the ongoing cost of maintenance. The bill exempts acquisitions by certain state land preservation programs, BWI/Marshall Airport, the Port of Baltimore and federal military property.

POSITION AND RATIONALE:

The Maryland Intergovernmental Review and Coordination Process, commonly known as the Clearinghouse, is housed within the Department of Planning. The Clearinghouse does not currently review state acquisitions. However, to the extent that potential qualifying property acquisitions include historic resources, an evaluation of the ongoing costs of preventing deterioration of the resources should be considered in the ongoing fiscal impact of the acquisition on the State.