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BILL NO.: **HB 451**

TITLE: Baltimore County – Property Tax – Homeowners Property Tax
Credit Supplement

SPONSOR: Delegate Long

COMMITTEE: Ways and Means

POSITION: **OPPOSE**

DATE: February 6, 2020

Baltimore County **OPPOSES** House Bill 451 – Baltimore County – Property Tax – Homeowners Property Tax Credit Supplement. This bill would require Baltimore County to grant a property tax credit to supplement the State homeowners’ property tax credit. This bill would potentially mean a drastic decrease in the County’s property tax revenues, significantly affecting County services.

In 2019, Baltimore County issued 7,600 supplemental credits, which totaled about \$1.3 million dollars. If this proposed legislation was enacted, it would raise the combined gross income limit and the maximum local credit, which would lead to the number of credits issued increasing by several million dollars.

In his first term in office, County Executive Olszewski spoke with over 2,000 Baltimore County residents in town halls across the County. An issue that was often brought up was that residents wanted to maintain County services and avoid budget shortfalls. This decrease in County property tax revenues could result in exactly what the people of Baltimore County hope to avoid. Additionally, this legislation would result in Baltimore County would having less money to invest in developing twenty-first century schools and infrastructure.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests **UNFAVORABLE** report on HB 451. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, at 443-900-6582.