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February 22, 2021

Chair Maggie McIntosh
Vice-Chair Mark S. Chang
Appropriations Committee
Maryland General Assembly

RE: Support for HB1065, Bond Authority – Maryland State Ceiling and Housing Bond Allocations
Position: Favorable

Dear Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf the Baltimore Regional Housing Partnership (BRHP). I am writing to express our support for House Bill 1065. HB1065 promotes the creation and preservation of sustainable and inclusive communities by codifying the ability of Housing Authorities to issue and receive transfer of bonds allocated under the Maryland State Ceiling.

BRHP is a nonprofit organization that operates the Baltimore Housing Mobility Program for thousands of families throughout the Baltimore region. Our mission is to expand housing choices for families with low incomes who have historically been excluded from housing in well-resourced neighborhoods, helping them to access and transition successfully to safe, healthy, and economically vibrant communities. We do this by providing rental assistance in the form of the Housing Choice Voucher and coupling that with counseling supports for our families as they transition from areas of concentrated poverty to areas of opportunity in Baltimore City and the five surrounding counties. BRHP is a proud member of the Maryland Association of Housing and Redevelopment Agencies (MAHRA), which also supports this bill.

This important bill solidifies authorities already granted to Housing Authorities to be awarded bond issuances under the Maryland State Ceiling. It also enables Housing Authorities to transfer, or receive transfer of, unused bond allocations as allocated by the Secretary of the Treasury. We urge the committee to favorably consider HB1065 and usher its passage into law.





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Thank you for your leadership in hearing this bill before the Appropriations Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Adria Crutchfield".

Adria Crutchfield
Executive Director, Baltimore Regional Housing Partnership

