



Maryland Municipal League

The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

January 19, 2021

Committee: House Ways and Means

Bill: HB 252 Tax Sales – Owner-Occupied Residential Property

Position: Support

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports House Bill 252 which allows, but does not require, a county or municipal government to withhold owner-occupied residential property from tax sale from June 1, 2021, through June 30, 2023.

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused financial challenges for many Marylanders. The pandemic has also created fiscal instability for local governments. Tax sales can generate revenue for our members, but housing security and stabilizing communities are equally important. This bill allows tax sales to proceed, but provides necessary flexibility for situations in which waiting to proceed with a tax sale is mutually beneficial to our constituents, communities, and local governments themselves. This is a reasonable and well-balanced approach to the challenges our members are currently facing.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League supports HB 252 and respectfully requests a favorable committee report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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