



## Maryland Municipal League

*The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns*

# TESTIMONY

February 2, 2021

**Committee:** House Environment & Transportation

**Bill:** HB 451 – Real Property – Residential Rental Property Inspection – Remote Video Inspection

**Position:** Oppose

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League opposes HB 451, which would require municipalities to adopt and carry out remote video inspections during a protracted state of emergency. While the League appreciates the intent of the sponsor, municipalities already have the authority to conduct remote inspections and most have been doing so regularly throughout the pandemic. Some members are conducting these inspections through photos as opposed to video for privacy reasons. Smaller members, that may not have the training or equipment to adequately conduct video inspections, have developed other protocol to keep residents safe during these times. In application, this bill constitutes another unfunded mandate.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League opposes HB 451 and respectfully requests an unfavorable committee report.

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