

Bill No: HB 932-- Landlord and Tenant – Right to Redemption of Leased

**Premises – Form of Payment** 

Committee: Environment and Transportation

Date: 2/22/22

Position: Favorable with Amendment

The Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington (AOBA) represents members that own or manage more than 23 million square feet of commercial office space and 133,000 apartment rental units in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties.

House Bill 932 requires housing providers to accept an electronic or written check issued by a political subdivision or on behalf of a governmental entity as a form of payment for the purposes of a tenant's redemption right to the property.

AOBA members are happy to accept payments from a governmental entity when a resident exercises their right of redemption. AOBA interprets this legislation to mean a housing provider is not required to sign a contract. To ensure this interpretation, AOBA respectfully requests the following amendment:

On page 2, in line 5, insert, (3) IN SUBSECTION (G)(1), ACCEPTANCE OF THE ELECTRONIC OR WRITTEN CHECK ISSUED BY A POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OR ON BEHALF OF A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY SHALL NOT REQUIRE THE LANDLORD OR THE LANDLORD'S AGENT TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT.

For these reasons AOBA requests a favorable with amendment report on HB 932.

For further information contact Erin Bradley, AOBA Vice President of Government Affairs, at 301-904-0814 or ebradley@aoba-metro.org.