



February 4, 2022

The Honorable Chairwoman Vanessa Atterbeary
The House Ways and Means Committee

RE: HB 309 - Baltimore County – Homestead Property Tax Credit Notice – Pilot Program
Position: SUPPORT

Dear Madam Chair Atterbeary, Mr. Vice Chair Washington, and esteemed Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

The Greater Baltimore Board of Realtors® (GBBR) is an association of Realtors®, brokers, and property managers advocating for property rights in the greater Baltimore area. On behalf of GBBR, we write to you in support of HB 309. We applaud Delegate Bob Long for sponsoring this legislation. We believe that a pilot program is a positive step forward in determining the homeowners that are eligible for the homestead property tax credit that are not receiving it. Unfortunately, there are homeowners in the County that despite being eligible, are not receiving the credit. However, there are owners of rental property that are receiving the credit.

As an association, we strongly support legislation that incentivizes homeownership. This bill will provide notice of eligibility to homeowners for the homestead property tax credit. Many citizens may be unaware of the benefits provided by the government for homeownership. Perhaps if more constituents were informed of these existing credits, more people would purchase homes.

A pilot program is a good idea because it will allow the County to assess if the notices will produce a higher rate of those that are eligible to apply for the homestead property tax credit. If the program is a success, then we could see other jurisdictions following same.

Thank you for your time and we encourage the Committee to support a favorable report on HB 309.

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On Behalf of GBBR