



# PRESERVATION MARYLAND

March 8, 2023

Hon. Guy Guzzone  
Budget and Taxation Committee  
Mill Senate Office Building, 11 Bladen St.  
Annapolis, Maryland

Hon. Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
Education, Energy and the Environment Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building, 11 Bladen St.  
Annapolis, Maryland

**RE: SB650 FAVORABLE**

**Chairperson Guzzone and Chairperson Feldman,**

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of Preservation Maryland and our thousands of statewide supporters, I thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **SUPPORT of SB650**— a piece of legislation that has the opportunity to support and invest in our state's history and communities.

Preservation Maryland is the statewide voice for historic preservation that works to protect the best of Maryland. Since 1931, we have worked tirelessly to protect the places, stories, and communities in Maryland that matter. (Learn more at: [presmd.org](http://presmd.org))

Preservation Maryland is supportive of the bill which has the potential to create dependable sources of funds to support communities across the state in the event of a natural disaster with grants, loans, and other financial support. With our experience following the harrowing floods in Ellicott City (2016, 2018), we believe this legislation is critical to our state's position to respond quickly to the financial needs of our communities' following disasters. Given that so many of our legacy communities are threatened by changing climates, the fund is a priority for historic places across our state.

SB650 is an innovative way of creating a dependable source of funds to support communities across the state with grants, loans, and other financial support in the event of a major disaster. Therefore, I respectfully urge a favorable report on SB650.

**Favorable**

Sincerely,

Nicholas A. Redding, President & CEO