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BILL NO.: **SB 174**

TITLE: Sales and Use Tax Exemption - Redevelopment Areas in
Baltimore County - Sunset Extension

SPONSOR: Senator Guzzone

COMMITTEE: Budget and Taxation

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: January 25, 2023

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 174 - Sales and Use Tax Exemption - Redevelopment Areas in Baltimore County - Sunset Extension. This legislation would extend the termination date for an exemption from the sales and use tax for construction material related to the redevelopment of the former Bethlehem Steel location.

At its peak, Bethlehem Steel employed thousands of Baltimore County residents and served as a critical contributor to the County's overall economic output. Many families in the Sparrow's Point region and beyond still feel the effects of the facility's closure. For years, the future of the site was uncertain, and many faced the prospect that the jobs lost would never return.

Baltimore County is proud of its partnership with Tradepoint Atlantic to redevelop Sparrow's Point into a thriving hub for economic and workforce development. The site now boasts names such as Amazon, Home Depot, and McCormick, and will serve as a central location for the State's upcoming offshore wind development plans.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 174. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov.