



BRANDON M. SCOTT
MAYOR

*Office of Government Relations
88 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401*

HB 249

February 7, 2023

TO: Members of the House Ways and Means Committee
FROM: Nina Themelis, Interim Director of Mayor's Office of Government Relations
RE: House Bill 249 - Baltimore City - Property Tax - Retroactive Exemption
POSITION: Support

Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Washington, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **supports** House Bill (HB) 249.

HB 249 authorizes a person who applies for specific property tax exemptions in Baltimore City to request that the exemption be retroactively applied for a certain period of time. This bill also requires Baltimore City and the State to refund the excess property taxes if that exemption is granted.

Under current law, certain properties are exempt from real property taxes, such as non-profits and religious institutions, but they must apply for those properties to be exempt every three years following their triennial assessment. Once granted, this exemption cannot be applied to prior years. Should the entity miss the application deadline, it is responsible for real estate taxes as if it were not tax exempt.

For these reasons, the BCA respectfully requests a **favorable** report on HB 249.