

**TESTIMONY OF RAMONA S. HARRY  
PROJECT MANAGER, MAYOR'S OFFICE OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT/CITY OF  
BALTIMORE**

**IN SUPPORT OF SB 101**

**BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE - MARYLAND SENATE  
January 17, 2024**

TO: Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosepepe, and members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

I am writing in support of SB 101 which seeks to provide permanent funding for the Schaefer Center for Public Policy.

I am thrilled to share my experience with the University of Baltimore (UBALT) Certified Public Manager (CPM) program, and the impact it has had on my professional growth. Enrolling in the CPM program was a pivotal decision that significantly enhanced my leadership skills and opened doors to new opportunities. Had it not been for the scholarships available I would not have been able to participate.

One of the most valuable aspects of the program is its comprehensive curriculum, covering essential topics such as strategic planning, organizational development, and effective communication. The instructors are seasoned professionals who bring real-world experience into the classroom, providing practical insights that I could immediately apply to my role.

The emphasis on leadership development is unparalleled. The program goes beyond theoretical knowledge, offering hands-on exercises and case studies that challenge participants to think critically and make informed decisions. This practical approach has undoubtedly sharpened my problem-solving abilities and decision-making prowess. The support in developing my capstone was instrumental in its implementation and success.

Networking opportunities within the CPM program are exceptional. Collaborating with fellow professionals from diverse backgrounds has not only enriched my learning experience but has also expanded my professional network. The connections forged during the program continue to be a valuable resource for sharing ideas, seeking advice, and exploring potential collaborations.

Furthermore, the CPM program has earned widespread recognition, enhancing my credibility as a public sector professional. Employers and colleagues alike recognize the commitment to excellence that comes with completing this program at the University of Baltimore, positioning me as a standout leader in my organization.

In conclusion, the Certified Public Manager program has been a transformative journey that has equipped me with the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in Baltimore City's dynamic and

challenging public management environment. I wholeheartedly recommend the CPM program to anyone aspiring to elevate their leadership capabilities and make a lasting impact in the public sector.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter. I urge the committee's favorable report of SB 101.

**SB 101**  
**FAVORABLE**