

JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.
County Executive



JENNIFER AIOSA
Director of Government Affairs

AMANDA KONTZ CARR
Legislative Officer

WILLIAM J. THORNE
Legislative Associate

BILL NO.: **HB 535**

TITLE: Maryland Task Force on Educator Housing

SPONSOR: Delegate Vogel

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 20, 2024

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 535 – Maryland Task Force on Educator Housing, which establishes the Maryland Task Force on Educator Housing to evaluate and make recommendations on options for addressing the lack of access to attainable housing for educators in the State. The Task Force would also evaluate the correlation between the lack of access to attainable housing and educator shortages in the State.

Baltimore County is supportive of efforts to enhance affordability for renters and increase pathways to homeownership. Maryland has a vested interest in advancing creative and supportive ways to recruit and retain educators and other school staff, including investigating ways to make safe and stable housing more affordable and attainable for this valued profession. This legislation represents an investment in both education and housing, and would be a net positive for schools, their staff, students, and the surrounding communities.

Accordingly, Baltimore County urges a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 535 from the House Environment and Transportation committee. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov.