



February 20, 2024

House Bill 599

Maryland Community Investment Corporation - Establishment (Housing and Community Development Financing Act of 2024)

House Environment and Transportation Committee

Position: FAVORABLE

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 599 – Maryland Community Investment Corporation - Establishment (Housing and Community Development Financing Act of 2024)

House Bill 599 will allow critical investments in low-income communities by establishing the Maryland Community Investment Corporation and will enhance efforts to ensure every community - regardless of zip code - has unfettered access to state and federal resources.

Anne Arundel County takes pride in valuing all of our residents and communities. Unfortunately, some pockets of our County experience challenges that require an all-hands-on-deck approach to solving. House Bill 599 would give local jurisdictions an additional tool to build up underserved areas by expanding the Strategic Demolition Fund, which seeks to create economic development and job growth. By doing so, we can better fund construction projects and spur redevelopment in areas that need it most, ensuring that no community is left behind.

Projects like Communities of Hope, which Anne Arundel County currently implements to serve high-poverty neighborhoods, will see a significant boost with the passage of this legislation. For all of these reasons, I respectfully request a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 599.

Stuart Pittman
County Executive