BRANDON M. SCOTT Mayor



CHRIS RYER Director

January 19, 2024

Subject: FAV support for HB0133 – An Act concerning Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland

Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee,

I submit this testimony in support of the bill creating a Commission to Study African American Civil War Soldiers in Maryland. It is critical to have thorough, accessible documentation about the brave African Americans who served the Union Army during the Civil War, the locations of their encampments and other sites of service, and all honors and recognitions awarded to them. Their service and sacrifice are overdue for public commemoration in the form of a memorial.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 410-371-5667 or at <u>eric.holcomb@baltimorecity.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

E.S. ALL

Eric Holcomb

Executive Director, Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL & ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

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