



David J. Caporale, President  
William R. Atkinson, Commissioner  
Creade V. Brodie, Jr., Commissioner  
Jason M. Bennett, CPA, Administrator  
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Maryland General Assembly  
Ways and Means Committee  
Hon. Vanessa E. Atterbeary  
Committee Chair  
100 State Cir.  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: House Bill 507 -Allegany and Garrett Counties - Property and Income Taxes- Credits  
for Construction and Purchase of Housing

Dear Chair Atterbeary:

I write today on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Allegany County, Maryland, to express my support of House Bill 507, sponsored by Delegates Buckel and Hinebaugh. Economic development in Allegany County needs every bolster of support we can receive to help promote the growth and development of our county. While economic development and workforce housing are often a chicken and egg quandary, in Allegany County, we are attempting to incentivize both.

House Bill 507 promotes a property tax credit of \$10,000 in the taxable year that new construction meeting certain modern standards is completed in Allegany and Garrett Counties. The tax credit is initially born by the county governments, and then is subject to a 50% remittance by the State. Allegany County understands that this tax credit will decrease future revenue for new construction homes, but believe that this incentive will encourage the construction of new homes in our county. Essentially, the long-term property tax income that will come as a result of incentivized new construction far outweighs the short-term loss of revenue. We understand that the State may be hesitant to take on the burden of remitting half of the property tax credit back to the county governments, but would ask that the State take the same leap of faith as the counties. New construction in Allegany County is at historic lows. Less than twenty new homes were built in Allegany County during the preceding year. If this property tax credit is what pushes even a few future homeowners to build new construction and increase the available housing in Allegany County, we will benefit.

We support and applaud Delegate Buckel and Hinebaugh's efforts with House Bill 507 to incentivize new construction and ask the State to join our push for economic development and workforce housing in Allegany and Garrett Counties.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David J. Caporale".

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David J. Caporale, President  
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of Allegany County, Maryland

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