



Randallstown

Po Box 731 Randallstown, MD 21133

January 27, 2025

Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SUPPORT SB 0344, Property Tax Credit - Retail Service Station Conversions

Dear Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe and Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee

The Randallstown NAACP is a 500 member branch located in Baltimore County, Maryland. We have members in Baltimore County and Baltimore City. One of primary focuses is ensuring that our communities yield a high quality of life for Black residents.

Electric vehicles are here to stay — and possibly, to put traditional fueling stations out of business. One 2019 study estimated that between 25% and 80% of

gas stations could be unprofitable by the early 2030s.

But closing gas stations and selling off the land means first cleaning up what's underneath them: often decades-old steel gasoline storage tanks, some of which are already leaking toxic chemicals into the soil and groundwater surrounding them. And a half-million confirmed leaks across the country could cost more than \$22 billion to clean up.

There are so many gas stations in the black community in Baltimore County and Maryland. How will we be able to transform these into stores and places our community needs? SB 0344 starts to give the community and government a tool to transform these gas stations.

The Randallstown NAACP supports SB 0344, Property Tax Credit - Retail Service Station Conversions. ***The Randallstown Branch of the NAACP urges a favorable report from the committee on SB 0344.***

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yours

Ryan Coleman
Randallstown NAACP, President
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