



February 3, 2025

The Honorable Guy Guzzone  
Budget and Taxation Committee  
West-Miller Senate Building, Room 3  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: Support for Senate Bill 0409**

Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Distinguished Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

**The Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation (AAEDC) requests a FAVORABLE REPORT on Senate Bill 0409.**

AAEDC is a quasi-governmental organization whose mission is to serve as a catalyst for business growth in Anne Arundel County – thereby increasing job opportunities, expanding the tax base, and improving citizens’ quality of life. We offer a host of services to accomplish this, and we are proud to offer them to businesses in all areas of the county.

We are also proud that two of our programs, the Arundel Community Reinvestment (ACR) Fund and the Community Revitalization Tax Credit, support the redevelopment and revitalization of many of our older commercial districts. They do so by incentivizing property owners to invest in and improve properties located in Arundel County’s eleven Commercial Revitalization Districts, parts of the City of Annapolis, and Brooklyn Park, the county’s designated Enterprise Zone. These investments beautify neighborhoods and spur economic activity that benefits local businesses, the economy, and the residents of surrounding communities.

Given AAEDC’s direct and active involvement in local revitalization and redevelopment activities, I am pleased to offer this letter in support of Senate Bill 0409, which provides an important tool to advance these efforts in underinvested communities.

Senate Bill 0409 modernizes state statute by allowing jurisdictions to rename Industrial Development Authorities (IDAs) as Redevelopment Authorities (RDAs) or adopt a name of their choosing. It also expands the permissible uses of IDA funds to support broader redevelopment and revitalization efforts.



SB0409 equips counties and municipalities with flexible tools to adopt modern economic development strategies. It enables more targeted redevelopment efforts through community-driven plans while ensuring oversight and alignment with local needs.

This Bill does not affect existing IDAs or bonding capacity of local government. Rather, it provides jurisdictions with enhanced options for funding redevelopment initiatives and a centralized organization to coordinate projects, engage stakeholders, and align efforts with legislative and community goals.

Most importantly, the Bill greatly expands authorities' ability to secure crucial financing by unlocking access to sources such as grants, bonds, tax increment financing (TIF), and private funding, thereby maximizing the financial and resource impact of redevelopment projects.

Taken together, the authority granted under this Bill provides local governments with additional tools to better fund, facilitate, and grow the diverse redevelopment and revitalization efforts that are essential to sustaining, transforming, and strengthening our communities most in need.

AAEDC strongly supports Senate Bill 0409 and respectfully requests a favorable report on these important resources to our regional economy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Gowan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Amy" and the last name "Gowan" clearly distinguishable.

Amy Gowan  
CEO/President