

## BRANDON M. SCOTT MAYOR

Office of Government Relations 88 State Circle Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 18, 2025

SB500

- **TO:** Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
- **FROM:** Nina Themelis, Director of Mayor's Office of Government Relations
- **RE:** Senate Bill 550 Baltimore City Property Tax Authority to Establish a Subclass and Special Rate for Property No Longer Used for Nonprofit Purposes

## **POSITION: POSITION**

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) <u>supports</u> Senate Bill (SB) 500.

SB 500 authorizes the City of Baltimore to establish a subclass of real property owned by a specific type of nonprofit origination, but not being used for the originally intended purpose, to set a special tax rate for that property.

The City of Baltimore has a robust plan to address vacant and empty buildings. We believe that this bill will help address the need for expedited renovation of certain properties in our community and help relieve decades of blight. Additionally, our residents deserve to live, work, and play in neighborhoods that are reflective of the positive change the BCA is working towards.

For the above stated reasons, the BCA respectfully request a **favorable** report on SB 500.