



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

March 4, 2025

Committee: Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

Bill: SB 427 – Economic Development – Delivering Economic Competitiveness and Advancing Development Efforts (DECADE) Act

Position: Support with amendment

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports Senate Bill 427, which makes substantial changes to Maryland's economic development programs in order to make Maryland more competitive.

The League greatly appreciates the provisions that eliminate the local match for certain programs. We are hopeful that it opens the door to more opportunities, especially in our small member cities and towns.

However, we do request amendments to strike the repeal of the Job Creation Tax Credit Program and One Maryland Program. These are programs our members use to entice businesses to open in their jurisdictions, often in areas bordering other states. In addition to the Enterprise Zone sunset and without a clear replacement, we are concerned their repeal would leave local governments with few tools to attract new businesses.

For these reasons the League respectfully requests that this committee provide a favorable report on Senate Bill 427 with amendments. For more information, please contact Justin Fiore, Deputy Director of Advocacy and Public Affairs, at justinf@mdmunicipal.org. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.