



City of Cambridge

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Testimony in Support of Maryland SB0469-The Harriet Tubman Community Investment Act

Lajan Cephas

Mayor of the City of Cambridge

Dorchester County Resident - 02/18/2025

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Good afternoon Honorable Chair Feldman and Honorable Vice Chair Kagan and respected members of this committee. My name is Lajan Cephas, and I am a proud resident of Dorchester County and mayor of the city of Cambridge.

I am writing to express my strong support for SB0469, the Harriet Tubman Community Investment Act. This bill represents a critical opportunity to address overdue inequities and lack of economic growth in historically marginalized communities across our state, much like Cambridge. I urge you to support this vital piece of legislation.

Daily we walk and drive on the same roads traveled, and structures entered by Harriet Tubman. We are in a different time, yet the effects of lineage enslavement are still overwhelmingly present. SB0469 honors Harriet's legacy by directing much-needed funds to minority-owned businesses, affordable housing initiatives, and infrastructure improvements in underserved areas. Furthermore, SB0469 will strengthen our communities by supporting affordable housing initiatives, ensuring that working families are not displaced due to rising costs and investment in infrastructure.

The Harriet Tubman Community Investment Act is more than just a bill—it is a commitment to justice, equity, and economic empowerment. It is a necessary step toward rectifying historical inequities and ensuring that every Marylander has a fair shot at success.

I strongly urge the General Assembly to pass SB0469 and stand in support of communities that need these investments the most. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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