



## TOWN OF QUEEN ANNE

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Town of Queen Anne

Chair Barve, Vice Chair Stein, and Members of the Committee:

I am submitting this testimony in support of SB962 on behalf of the Town of Queen Anne. Our municipality operates with an annual revenue of less than \$100,000. Under current legislation, municipalities with revenues under \$250,000 may request a waiver from the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) to conduct an audit once every four years instead of annually. However, even with the waiver, the cost of a legislative audit remains a significant burden for small towns like ours.

For a town with such limited revenue, the audit expense—which can cost several thousand dollars—takes away from funds that could otherwise be used for essential services and community needs. Additionally, we are still required to submit the Uniform Financial Report (UFR) annually, ensuring transparency and financial accountability.

SB962 provides a much-needed permanent exemption for towns under \$100,000 in revenue and allows us to responsibly manage limited public funds while continuing to meet state reporting requirements.

Thank you for your consideration and support of Maryland's smallest municipalities.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Starkey, Jr

Mayor