



## Queen Anne's County

### County Commissioners:

James J. Moran, At Large  
Jack N. Wilson, Jr., District 1  
J. Patrick McLaughlin, District 2  
Philip L. Dumenil, District 3  
Christopher M. Corchiarino, District 4

## THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

The Liberty Building  
107 North Liberty Street  
Centreville, MD 21617

e-mail: [QACCommissioners&Administrator@qac.org](mailto:QACCommissioners&Administrator@qac.org)

County Administrator: *Todd R. Mohn, PE*  
Executive Assistant to County Commissioners: *Stephanie Jarrell*  
County Attorney: *Patrick Thompson, Esquire*

January 14, 2025

The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary  
Chair, Ways and Means Committee  
House Office Building, Room 130  
Annapolis MD 21401

RE: HB 101 – Property Tax - Deadline to Set County and Municipal Corporation Tax Rates –  
Alteration **OPPOSED**

Dear Honorable Atterbeary,

We are writing to express strong opposition to House Bill 101, which proposes that Counties set property tax rates by June 1 of each year, rather than the current July 1 deadline. This adjustment to our budget process would significantly affect our County's financial operations. After careful consideration, we have identified challenges and concerns regarding this bill and its potential impact on our budget timeline, operations, and staff.

#### 1. Budget Process Adjustments:

Under the current process, we typically set the property tax rates in mid- to late-June. The changes proposed in House Bill 101 would require us to accelerate our entire budget calendar by 30 days. This change would not only disrupt our timeline but also set back our public hearing schedule, which could create significant logistical challenges for both county staff and the public. The 30-day shift would have a ripple effect on various processes and coordination, undermining the efficiency of our operations.

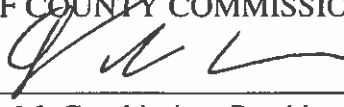
#### 2. Operational Concerns:

Another major concern we have is the timing of the proposed changes. Shifting our budget timeline would result in departmental budget proposals being due during the December holiday season, a time when it is already difficult to coordinate with staff and ensure thorough collaboration. Moreover, our Finance Office is small, and we rely heavily on our staff to handle multiple responsibilities, including assisting with our annual audit. The added pressure of the budget process during the audit period would place an immense burden on an already constrained team, negatively affecting the quality of both the budget and audit processes.

Given these significant operational and staffing challenges, we strongly urge you to reconsider the provisions of House Bill 101. The proposed adjustments would place undue strain on our already limited resources and could ultimately impair our ability to efficiently serve the residents of our county.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns. We appreciate your attention to this important matter and hope that you will take our opposition into account as the bill moves forward.

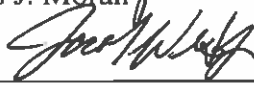
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Christopher M. Corchiarino, President



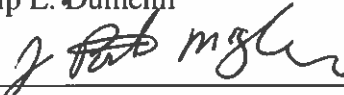
James J. Moran



Jack N. Wilson



Philip L. Dumenil



J. Patrick McLaughlin