



**Odette Ramos**

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**District 14**

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**HB1189 – Baltimore City – Property Tax - Authority to Establish a Subclass and Special Rate for Property No Longer Used for Nonprofit Purposes**  
**February 26, 2025**  
**FAVORABLE**

Honorable Chair Atterbeary and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee:

I am writing to urge your support for **HB1189 – Baltimore City – Property Tax - Authority to Establish a Subclass and Special Rate for Property No Longer Used for Nonprofit Purposes**.

Baltimore City is proud to be a location for the best health care and higher education in the world. We are home to multiple nonprofits and religious institutions that conduct exceptional work for our residents.

Unfortunately, many of these nonprofits own property that are not used for charitable purposes. HB1189 would allow for Baltimore City to identify these properties and set a special property tax rate on them. The possibilities here include:

- Adding the Vacant Property tax that the City Council just passed to these properties that are vacant and otherwise not providing any purpose. The vacancy tax is added to vacant properties and lots to increase the liens and make the properties eligible for In Rem, but also can be an incentive for the charity to sell or do something with the vacant property.
- Adding our regular property tax to these properties that are not used for charitable purposes in order to ensure the charitable organization contributes to our city. Currently charitable organizations do not pay property taxes.

We look forward to ensuring that all properties are treated fairly, and that some of our charitable organizations that are holding property for non-charitable purposes are not taking advantage of the law.

Please support HB1189.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. I can be reached on 410-396-4814 or via email at [odette.ramos@baltimorecity.gov](mailto:odette.ramos@baltimorecity.gov).

Respectfully Submitted:

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