



Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore, Inc.

January 28, 2025

Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair
House Office Building
Room 131
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill 258

Honorable Chair Atterbeary and Members of the Committee:

I am the Chief Executive Officer of Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore (NHS), and a resident of Baltimore City. Our organization believes that economic and social justice are a right for all residents and communities. We promote this belief by removing barriers of access to homeownership, helping resident access resources to maintain their homes, and supporting communities historically impacted by systemic disinvestment.

Our community development work is focused in the Greater Mondawmin and Greater Rosemont communities of West Baltimore. We have had the privilege of working with the West North Avenue Development Authority (WNADA) over the past 3 years. It has been extremely helpful to have a unified plan for West North Avenue that considers all the previously developed plans and to also have coordinated funding needed to implement those plans.

As they continue their work improving the West North Avenue corridor, it is critical to provide the tools necessary to implement lasting change. HB258 is designed to provide those tools. As a partner we support the work of WNADA and ask that the Committee issue a *favorable* report on HB 258.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. T. Ellis", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Daniel T. Ellis
Chief Executive Officer



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