



Maryland Municipal League  
*The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns*

# TESTIMONY

March 4, 2025

**Committee:** House Ways and Means Committee

**Bill:** HB 498 – Economic Development – Delivering Economic Competitiveness and Advancing Development Efforts (DECADE) Act

**Position:** Support with amendment

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League supports House Bill 498, which makes substantial changes to Maryland's economic development programs in order to make Maryland more competitive.

The League greatly appreciates the provisions that eliminate the local match for certain programs. We are hopeful that it opens the door to more opportunities, especially in our small member cities and towns.

However, we do request amendments to strike the repeal of the Job Creation Tax Credit Program and One Maryland Program. These are programs our members use to entice businesses to open in their jurisdictions, often in areas bordering other states. In addition to the Enterprise Zone sunset and without a clear replacement, we are concerned their repeal would leave local governments with few tools to attract new businesses.

For these reasons the League respectfully requests that this committee provide a favorable report on House Bill 498 with amendments. For more information, please contact Justin Fiore, Deputy Director of Advocacy and Public Affairs, at [justinf@mdmunicipal.org](mailto:justinf@mdmunicipal.org). Thank you in advance for your consideration.

*The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.*