



**CALVERT COUNTY  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

175 Main Street  
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678  
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[www.calvertcountymd.gov](http://www.calvertcountymd.gov)

*Board of Commissioners*

Mark C. Cox Sr.  
Catherine M. Grasso  
Earl F. Hance  
Mike Hart  
Todd Ireland

February 11, 2025

The Honorable Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair  
Ways and Means Committee  
130 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: HB998 – Calvert County - Property Tax Credit - Tobacco Barns

Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Committee Members:

The Board of County Commissioners for Calvert County writes in **SUPPORT** of **HB998** and requests a **FAVORABLE** Committee report. This Bill is enabling legislation that allows the local government to grant a property tax credit against the county property tax imposed on certain real property that was formerly used solely as a tobacco barn.

Tobacco barns are emblematic of Calvert County's rich agricultural heritage, serving as tangible reminders of our region's historical reliance on tobacco farming. As agricultural practices evolve and the demand for tobacco declines, many of these structures face neglect or demolition. This legislation, modeled after that already in place in neighboring Charles and St. Mary's Counties, provides an incentive for property owners to preserve these barns by offering tax relief, thereby encouraging their maintenance and adaptive reuse. Preserving these barns not only honors our county's history but also offers potential economic benefits. Restored tobacco barns can be repurposed for agritourism, community events, or educational purposes, contributing to local tourism and fostering a deeper appreciation for our agricultural roots. This initiative also aligns with broader efforts to conserve Maryland's cultural and historical assets for future generations.

Your thoughtful consideration of this request is sincerely appreciated. Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact County Administrator Julian M. Willis at 410-535-1600, extension 2202, or Economic Development Director, Julie Oberg at 410-535-1600, extension 2485.

Sincerely,  
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Earl F. Hance".

Earl F. Hance, President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd M. Ireland".

Todd Ireland, Vice President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark C. Cox Sr.".

Mark C. Cox Sr.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Catherine M. Grasso".

Catherine M. Grasso

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Hart".

Mike Hart

cc: Calvert County Senators and Delegation