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Dear Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and Members of the House Ways and Means Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for HB0341 (Property Tax Credit – Retail Service Station Conversions), which seeks to amend the Article – Tax – Property, Section 9–268 of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Sponsored by Delegate Sheila Ruth, this legislation is crucial for fostering positive economic development and adaptive reuse of properties in our communities.

The conversion of retail service stations to alternative uses, such as retail or residential, is often a complex process that requires significant investment. The legislation acknowledges the challenges faced by property owners in repurposing these properties, contributing to the revitalization of our communities.

HB0341 allows local jurisdictions flexibility in implementing the tax credit, tailoring it to each community's needs. The provision for state reimbursement of 50% to counties and municipalities demonstrates a commitment to supporting local jurisdictions in their efforts to promote smart redevelopment.

I'm happy to support HB0341 in hopes of promoting economic growth and community improvement in Maryland. For these reasons, I urge a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Councilman Pat Young

**Baltimore County Councilman** 

Pat Young

District 1