



MARYLAND
CATHOLIC
CONFERENCE

March 31st 2026

HB571

**Nonprofit Housing Corporations - Taxes and Special Assessments Exemptions –
Alterations**

Budget and Taxation Committee

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Catholic Conference offers this testimony in support of **House Bill 571**. The Maryland Catholic Conference is the public policy representative of the three (arch)dioceses serving Maryland, which together encompass over one million Marylanders. Statewide, their parishes, schools, hospitals and numerous charities combine to form our state's second largest social service provider network, behind only our state government.

House Bill 571 would exempt certain real property owned by subsidiary entities of a nonprofit housing corporation from State and local taxes and special assessments. It also provides protections by exempting certain properties from specific procedures related to the enforcement of judgments against the nonprofit housing corporation. In effect, the legislation seeks to ease financial and legal burdens on nonprofit housing providers so they can continue their mission of providing affordable housing.

The intent of this legislation is to strengthen the capacity of nonprofit housing organizations to serve individuals and families in need by reducing operational costs and protecting essential housing assets. Nonprofit housing providers often operate with limited resources while serving some of the most vulnerable populations, including low-income families, seniors, and individuals experiencing housing instability. By offering tax relief and legal protections, this bill aims to preserve affordable housing units and ensure these organizations can continue their work without the added strain of financial or legal barriers.

Access to safe and stable housing is a basic human need and a cornerstone of a dignified life. Supporting nonprofit organizations that provide this critical service aligns with our moral responsibility to care for those most in need and to promote systems that uphold justice and stability. The benefits of this legislation would be felt across communities, families, and individuals throughout Maryland. By lowering the financial burden on nonprofit housing corporations, more resources can be directed toward maintaining existing housing, expanding affordable housing options, and supporting residents. By advancing this legislation, Maryland affirms its commitment to protecting families, strengthening communities, and ensuring that all individuals have the opportunity to live with dignity.

For these reasons, the Maryland Catholic Conference urges a favorable report on **Senate Bill 719**.