



Habitat for Humanity[®]
of the Chesapeake

*Bringing people together to build
homes, communities & hope*

Testimony

Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

HB 239

Position: Support

FEBRUARY 12, 2026

Chair Valderrama and Vice-Chair Charkoudian,

Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake is the leading provider of affordable homeownership opportunities in Central Maryland. Since our founding 45 years ago, we have built or renovated over 800 homes in 26 communities across Baltimore City and Baltimore, Anne Arundel and Howard counties. This year, we are in active construction or pre-development in several neighborhoods in Baltimore, as well as on projects in Severn and Colombia. These include both new construction and intensive rehabilitation of long-vacant homes.

We support the goals of the Starter and Silver Homes Act, recognizing that it brings strategic attention to removing obstacles for land use to solve some of our current housing shortage. We applaud the chance to have more homeownership units in these efforts, and invite the chance for those to include homeownership affordability.

Increasing housing supply is a key priority for the state, and a key concern for Habitat for Humanity across its network. Please support this proposal to increase housing supply in key areas within the State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MP' followed by a stylized flourish.

Mike Posko, CEO