



PRESERVATION MARYLAND

February 04, 2026

Hon. William C. Smith, Jr.
Judicial Proceedings Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland

RE: SB0352 FAVORABLE With Amendments

Chairperson Smith,

On behalf of the staff and Board of Directors of Preservation Maryland and our thousands of statewide supporters, I thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in **SUPPORT of SB0352 with Amendments** – a piece of legislation that will require the Motor Vehicle Administration to develop and make available a historic license plate for motor vehicles.

Why We Support This Legislation?

Our organization supports this legislation because it presents a creative opportunity for the general public to engage with the past and celebrate the history of our state. By creating a tangible connection between the past and the present, this legislation also has the potential to inspire citizens to preserve the historic resources of our state.

Additionally, in talks with the bill sponsors, we believe there may be an opportunity to utilize revenue generated by the program to support preservation projects in the state – thereby using the history of the state to benefit its preservation.

Requested Amendments

1. We have requested that the **revenue, after administrative costs, generated by the program be deposited in the following manner to support preservation** (starting at line 20 in the draft bill):

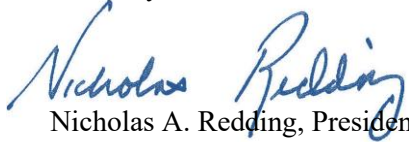
20 (2) CREDITED TO THE MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST FOR ANNUAL DISBURSEMENT TO A STATEWIDE, HISTORIC PRESERVATION NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION WITH DEMONSTRATED EXPERIENCE IN GRANTMAKING, IN ORDER TO MANAGE AND COMPETITIVELY AWARD THE FUNDS AS GRANTS TO DESERVING PRESERVATION PROJECTS STATEWIDE.

2. Preservation Maryland, along with many representatives of the state's heritage and history community, request that the **bill title be amended to Old Line License Plate**. Old Line Plate has been the trade name used by Kara Mae Harris for the past decade as part of her efforts to elevate awareness of the state's culinary heritage and using the same name could unintentionally distract from her work and the several books she has published on the subject.

SB0352 is an innovative piece of legislation with the potential to inspire, generate funds for preservation, and build awareness for the history of our state, and we therefore urge a favorable report with amendments.

Favorable with Amendments

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nicholas Redding". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N' and 'R'.

Nicholas A. Redding, President & CEO