



MARYLAND
Association of
COUNTIES

House Bill 674

*Maryland Historic Trust – Historic Preservation Partnership Program and Fund –
Established*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Appropriations Committee

Date: February 28, 2023

From: Dominic J. Butchko

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** HB 674. Counties recognize the need to incentivize the preservation of historic properties.

Maryland is blessed with a rich bounty of historic sites and notable structures. As state leaders look forward, the preservation of these sites is critical as they can serve as a driver of community redevelopment and economic growth.

Public policy that provides tools for jurisdictions to further preservation efforts is a positive step for both communities and broader economic development. Redeveloped historic sites can help drive future growth, and strategic place-making initiatives, providing a possible source of new affordable housing, job creation through tourism, and cultural and historical educational value.

Any program that supports the aforementioned preservation and development efforts is a step in the right direction. For this reason, **MACo SUPPORTS** HB 674 and urges a **FAVORABLE** report.