

Written testimony in support of HB0348

My name is Rebekah Opher, and I am an undergraduate student at the University of Baltimore. I am writing this letter to support HB0348 to secure funding for the University of Baltimore William Donald Schaefer Center for Public Policy. As a newly accepted NextGen student, I am thrilled to have the privilege to learn from and work with community leaders who positively impact Baltimore. The education I am receiving at the University of Baltimore complements the program because it allows students to compare theory to application.

I am an interdisciplinary studies major concentrating on criminal justice, psychology, and business administration with a real estate and economic development specialization, along with a history minor. Without this program, I would be unable to form lasting community ties with organizations that will be integral to the success of my future nonprofit organization. The complexity of my program necessitates the curated fellowship that I obtained via the NextGen program.

The continued support of this program will benefit the students at the University of Baltimore and the city. Networking and collaboration are essential to ensuring the longevity and success of various initiatives that will benefit everyone. I implore you to continue to financially support the UBalt William Donald Schaefer Center for Public Policy HB0348.