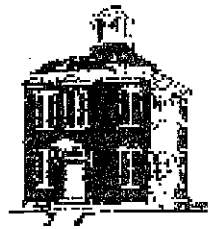


ALLEGANY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BELL TOWER BUILDING ■ 24 FREDERICK STREET ■ CUMBERLAND, MD 21502
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E-MAIL: info@alleganycountychamber.com



March 2, 2016

The Honorable Sheila E. Hixson, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
131 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB278 – Economic Development – Municipal Corporations – Community Revitalization and Improvement Zones

Dear Madam Chair:

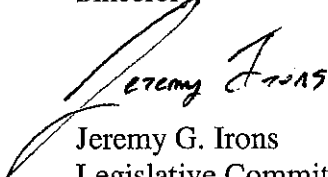
The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce supports HB278 Economic Development – Municipal Corporations – Community Revitalization and Improvement Zones (CRIZ) which would allow municipalities to designate community revitalization and improvement zones for the construction of specified facilities and encourage economic growth and job creation inside Maryland municipalities.

The Allegany Chamber supports this legislation as an avenue to provide another opportunity and tool for Maryland municipalities to use to promote economic development. The concepts have already proven effective in revitalization efforts in targeted municipalities in Pennsylvania where high levels of private investment have been realized.


The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce stands with the Cumberland Economic Development Corporation in hopes they will be part of the implementation of the CRIZ program in Cumberland as we feel confident this tool will be helpful in their efforts toward economic progress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jeremy G. Irons
Legislative Committee Chair



Stuart C. Czapski
Executive Director

cc: Honorable Frank S. Turner, Vice Chair, House Ways and Means Committee
House Ways and Means Committee Members
Western Maryland Delegation