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To: Chair McCray, Vice Chair Schleifer, and Members of the Budget & Appropriations Committee

From: Emilio D Gironda, Jr

Re: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF BILL# 25-0036
Property Taxes – Baltimore City Payment in Lieu of Taxes Task Force

I am a resident of Baltimore City District 4. I am submitting this testimony in support of Council Bill 25-0036- Baltimore City Payment in Lieu of Taxes Task Force, and urge a favorable report with no weakening amendments.

I am a retired Attorney who practiced law for over 35 years, and am familiar with the history, facts and circumstances herein.

In a nutshell, hospitals and universities not only possess greater wealth and assets than most other nonprofits and thus have a higher ability to contribute financially, they disproportionately erode the City's tax base by owning the most extensive and most valuable real estate – all tax exempt.

It is my understanding that the task force will recommend a fair funding formula to be used for PILOT contributions that takes into consideration total property tax exemption, assets, and city service utilization for each institution

I respectfully urge this committee to pass Council Bill #25-0036 without any weakening amendments.

If you need anything else please contact me at the above address, phone number or email. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter and for your courtesy and cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Emilio Gironda