



February 16, 2026

The Honorable Chairwoman Danielle McCray
The Budget and Appropriations Committee

RE: **City Council bill – 26-0151- Increase of Homestead Tax Credit Percentage**
Position: Oppose

Dear Madam Chair McCray, Mr. Vice Chair Schleifer, and esteemed Members of the Budget and Appropriations Committee,

The Greater Baltimore Board of Realtors® (GBBR) is an association of Realtors®, brokers, and property managers advocating for property rights in the greater Baltimore area. On behalf of GBBR, we write to you in opposition to City Council bill 26-0151.

We understand and support the impetus behind the City's goal of decreasing property taxes to spur growth and homeownership in Baltimore City. However, without a companion bill that would lower property tax rates, GBBR cannot support an increase in taxes. This bill will increase the taxable value of property per year from a 4% limit to 6% limit.

Our industry seeks to incentivize and promote homeownership. One of the major obstacles to homeownership is affordability. Unfortunately, as stated above, this bill will exacerbate affordability. Sometimes even a few thousand dollars can make or break a deal. We would consider withdrawing our opposition if there is a companion bill, and if passed in conjunction with this bill, would create a net decrease in taxes and thus lowering the overall cost of homeownership.

Thank you for your time and we encourage the Committee to oppose City Council bill 26-0151.

GBBR