
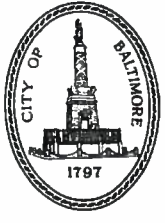


FROM	Name & Title	 Walter J. Horton, Real Estate Officer	CITY OF BALTIMORE MEMO	
	Agency Name & Address	Department of Real Estate 304 City Hall		
	Subject	City Council Bill 15-0565 Personal Property Tax Credits – Food Desert Incentive Areas		

To: Honorable President and Members
of the City Council
Room 400 – City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street

Date: October 26, 2015

The Department of Real Estate is in receipt of City Council Bill #15-0565, which is for the purpose of establishing a tax credit against the personal property tax imposed on qualified supermarkets in Food Desert Incentive Areas; imposing certain limitations, conditions, and qualifications for credit eligibility; providing for the amount, duration, and administration of the credit; defining certain terms; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to a personal property tax credit for supermarkets.

The Baltimore Food Policy Initiative’s Food Desert Retail Strategy, is to encourage supermarkets to open in the food desert areas of Baltimore City. An incentive to enter a food desert area is to give a personal property tax credit to the supermarket. This incentive will attract supermarkets to the areas where they are needed most. With the supermarkets in the food desert area, the availability of healthy affordable foods to the community will increase.

Therefore, the Department of Real Estate does support the passage of this legislation for Personal Property Tax Credits to Food Desert Incentive Areas.

WJH/smk

cc: Ms. Natawna Austin

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