

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



BOARD OF MUNICIPAL AND
ZONING APPEALS

DAVID C. TANNER, Executive Director
417 E. Fayette Street, Room 1432
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

June 19, 2015

The Honorable President and Members of the City Council
City Hall, 100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: City Council Bill No. 15-0529 Historical and Architectural Preservation – 50th
Anniversary Reauthorization

Ladies and Gentlemen:

City Council Bill No. 15-0529 has been referred by your Honorable Body to the Board of
Municipal and Zoning Appeals for study and report.

The purpose of City Council Bill No. 15-0529 is to reconstitute and reauthorize the
Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation; restating and clarifying the
Commission's powers, duties, and functions; substituting a new, short-lived "Potential-
Landmark List" for the current "Special List"; modifying the processes for designating
Historical and Architectural Preservation Districts, Landmarks, and Potential Landmarks;
modifying the procedures for protecting the exteriors, interiors, and appurtenant property
of structures located within an Historical District or included on the Landmark List or
Potential-Landmark List; modifying the provisions that require review of proposed
alterations to "municipal structures"; providing for the establishment and maintenance of
an Inventory of Historical Places, to serve primarily as a non-regulatory research and
documentation instrument; modifying the procedures for reviewing and criteria for
approving proposed alterations to protected structures; authorizing the Commission to
delegate to its professional staff the review and approval of minor, compliant alterations;
defining various terms; correcting, clarifying, and conforming related provisions;
repealing obsolete provisions; and generally relating to the designation and preservation
of historically and architecturally significant property.

The BMZA has reviewed the legislation and supports the passage of Bill Number 15-
0529.

Sincerely,

David C. Tanner
Executive Director
DCT/rdh

CC: Mayors Office of Council Relations
Legislative Reference

