

## HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 17, 2017

My name Fred Dorsey and I live at 10774 Judy Lane, Columbia Md. I am here as President of Preservation Howard County to testify on CB 6-2017 amending the "Restoration and rehabilitation of historic or heritage properties.".....

This bill provides tax credit for interior restoration, assists the reestablishment of the properties assessed value, retroactive approval for emergency work performed required by flood, fire, natural disaster and granting the approved tax credit annually for ten years.

These three areas change the spectrum of historic preservation restoration now within the two historic districts and extends it to historic properties throughout Howard County. These three areas cannot stand on their own without the inclusion of a detailed implementation process absent in the bill.

The extent of tax credit for interior work exceeds the current approvals providing only for interior work that affects structural stability and weather proofing. There is an exterior Design Guideline used by the HPC but there is not a Design Guideline. The bill does not address the specific types of interior restoration provided in this bill leaving only the Secretary of Interior guidelines as a source.

The concerns presented are important enough that PHC feels the bill should be tabled and the concerns addressed in a work sessions. A bill returned adequately addressing these concerns would be supported by PHC, should be approved by the Council benefitting historic property owners, especially those located on Main Street Ellicott City.