

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Joshua Greenfeld <jgreenfeld@marylandbuilders.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 15, 2017 9:34 AM  
**To:** Feldmark, Jessica; Ball, Calvin B; Smith, Gary; Weinstein, Jon; Terrasa, Jen; Sigaty, Mary Kay; Fox, Greg; Knight, Karen; Pruim, Kimberly; Clay, Mary; CouncilMail; Wilson, B Diane; Lazdins, Valdis; Caldwell, Jim; Kittleman, Allan  
**Cc:** James Fraser; Annette Rosenblum; Thom Marston; Lori Graf  
**Subject:** MBIA Letter of Support for CB34-2017 – Extension of High Performance Home Tax Credits  
**Attachments:** MBIA Letter of Support for CB34 Extension of High Performance Home Tax Credits.pdf

Dear Chairman Weinstein and Members of the Howard County Council:

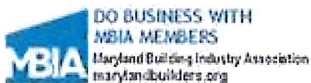
The MBIA writes in support of CB34-2017, an emergency bill, which extends the life of the High Performance Home Tax Credit until April 1, 2022 and allows all applicants to receive the full credit through June 30, 2026. New applications of for this credit ceased being accepted on April 1, 2017. As such, emergency legislation is necessary to reinstate this important program that helps both home buyers and home builders, immediately. These four year credits are a significant incentive for home buyers and home builders to invest in energy efficient technology that makes our neighborhoods cleaner and greener.

The MBIA is happy to assist the County in and its residents move towards a greener, more sustainable future. Thank you for your support of this legislation and the home building industry in Howard County.

If you have any questions about these comments or would like to discuss our position further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best,

**Josh Greenfeld, Esq.**  
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Bowling Night & Networking Event - May 16  
Join us at Lucky Strike in Bethesda. [Register here.](#)

Mind Your Own Business! - May 17  
Learn Accounting & Tax Strategies. [Register here.](#)

Montgomery County Chapter Custom Builder Awards - May 24  
Honoring Fine Design & Craftsmanship. [Register here.](#)

Check out NAHB's Member Advantage Program at [www.nahb.org/ma](http://www.nahb.org/ma)

May 15, 2017

**Re: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR CB34-2017 – Extension of High Performance Home Tax Credits**

Dear Chairman Weinstein and Members of the Howard County Council:

The MBIA writes in support of CB34-2017, an emergency bill, which extends the life of the High Performance Home Tax Credit until April 1, 2022 and allows all applicants to receive the full credit through June 30, 2026. New applications of for this credit ceased being accepted on April 1, 2017. As such, emergency legislation is necessary to reinstate this important program immediately.

These four year credits are a significant incentive for home buyers and home builders to invest in energy efficient technology that makes our neighborhoods cleaner and greener. The MBIA thanks the County Executive for his leadership on this issue as well as Chairman Ball for his foresight to introduce program in 2011.

In the words of MBIA member and Mitchell Best Homes CEO, Marty Mitchell, “This is a great tax credit for the homebuyer. As homebuilders, we want to deliver the best, most energy efficient home possible, but sometimes this is more than the typical homebuyer can afford. With a savings that can reach from \$12,000 to \$20,000 over the life of the credit, this tax credit allows the homeowner to afford more energy efficient construction than they would otherwise. It is a win-win for the environment and our local economy. “

Thus far, the County has awarded nearly \$300,000 in credits with each home between 30% and 60% more efficient than an average new home. In the next few years, dozens of new homes are planned to be built to “high performance” standards but without this legislation, many homeowners expecting to receive these credits would not receive them and these homes may not be built. This legislation ensures that new homebuyers receive their full credit while continuing to spur the rebounding home building sector.

The MBIA is happy to assist the County in and its residents move towards a greener, more sustainable future. Thank you for your support of this legislation and the home building industry in Howard County.

If you have any questions about these comments and would like to discuss our position further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

Josh Greenfeld, Vice President of Government Affairs

Cc: County Executive Allan Kittleman  
Councilmember Greg Fox  
Councilmember Mary Kay Sigaty  
Councilmember Jen Terrassa  
Councilmember Calvin Ball

Jessica Feldmark  
Diane Wilson