

Building Industry Testimony on CB5-2016 and CB52-2015

Joshua Greenfeld [jgreenfeld@marylandbuilders.org]

Sent: Tuesday, January 19, 2016 9:13 AM**To:** Feldmark, Jessica; Ball, Calvin B; Smith, Gary; Weinstein, Jon; Terrasa, Jen; Sigaty, Mary Kay; Fox, Greg; Knight, Karen; Pruum, Kimberly; Clay, Mary; CouncilMail; Calvin Yahoo [philosopherpoet2@yahoo.com]**Cc:** Delorenzo, Carl; Siddiqui, Jahantab; Wilson, B Diane; Allan Kittleman [allan.kittleman@gmail.com]; Kathleen Maloney [katmaloney@verizon.net]; Bob Kaufman [bkaufman@marylandbuilders.org]; Lori Graf [LGraf@marylandbuilders.org]; Kristin Hogle [khogle@marylandbuilders.org]; Kelly Grudziecki [kgrudziecki@marylandbuilders.org]; Tom Ballentine [naiop.md.tom@verizon.net]; jamie@i-s-land.com; Annette Rosenblum [arosenblum@marylandbuilders.org]; Marcus Jackson [mjackson@marylandbuilders.org]**Attachments:** MBIA Letter of Support for~1.pdf (256 KB) ; MBIA Letter of Concern For~1.pdf (251 KB)

Chairman Ball and Members of the Howard County Council,

Please find attached letters from the Maryland Building Industry Association in support of CB5-2016 (High Performance Home Tax Credits) and of concern with CB52-2015 (Watershed Protection and Restoration Fee). Please call me with any questions about these or any other development related issues. Thank you for your support of the residential home building industry in Howard County.

Best,

Josh Greenfeld, Esq.

jgreenfeld@marylandbuilders.org

Vice President of Government Affairs

Maryland Building Industry Association

11825 W. Market Place

Fulton, MD 20759

Ph: 443-515-0025



NAHB's International Builders Show - Jan. 19-21

See you in Las Vegas! [Register here.](#)

MBIA's Utilities Improvement Task Force Networking Event - Jan. 28

Mingle with utility staff & officials. [Register here.](#)

Professional Women in Building's Wine & Chocolate Tasting - Feb. 9

Eat, drink & shop at Grace's Boutique in Laurel. [Register here.](#)Check out NAHB's Member Advantage Program at www.nahb.org/ma

January 19, 2016

Re: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR CB5-2016 – Extension of High Performance Home Tax Credits

Dear Chairman Ball and Members of the Howard County Council:

The MBIA writes in support of CB5-2016 which extends the life of the High Performance Home Tax Credit until 2018 and allows all applicants to receive the full credit until 2021. 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 and recent homebuyers receive their full credits continuing to spur the rebounding home building sector.

Going forward, the MBIA encourages the County Council and the County Executive to make this tax credit permanent. Promoting and implementing green solutions is an asset for all County residents, and the home building industry is happy to be a part of this move into the 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 Jon Weinstein

Jessica Feldmark
Diane Wilson
Jahantab Siddiqui