



## Senate Bill 62

*Community Legacy Program – Application Requirements – Approval by Authorized Designee*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Environmental Matters Committee

Date: March 28, 2013

From: Leslie Knapp Jr.

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** SB 62. The bill would allow a local jurisdiction to approve an application for a sustainable community plan or community legacy project by adopting a resolution or by delivering a letter to the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). The letter would need to be from an authorized designee of the local jurisdiction.

Under current law, a local jurisdiction may only approve a sustainable community plan or community legacy project through adopting a resolution, which can be an administratively cumbersome and more costly process. SB 62 would allow a local jurisdiction flexibility to send a letter to DHCD expressing support for the plan or project, instead of going through the resolution adoption process.

SB 62 proposes a minor but time- and cost-saving change in how local jurisdictions can approve sustainable community plans and community legacy projects. As counties continue to face decreased revenue and State aid, any possible changes for the sake of efficiency, however small, are appreciated. Accordingly, MACo recommends the Committee issue a **FAVORABLE** report on SB 62.