



MARYLAND
Association of
COUNTIES

Senate Bill 314

*Board of Revenue Estimates and Bureau of Revenue Estimates -
Organization and Operations*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Budget and Taxation Committee

Date: January 27, 2021

From: Kevin Kinnally

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** SB 314. The bill would boost the capacity of the Bureau of Revenue Estimates (BRE) to provide counties with comprehensive, timely, and accurate data on state and local revenues, fiscal analyses, and economic trends.

Counties rely on data from the BRE to craft budgets and make informed policy decisions. Among other requirements, this bill would encourage transparency by requiring BRE to develop and maintain a website that includes its revenue estimates, projections, and reports, which will streamline public access and equip local elected officials and finance professionals with high-quality, county-specific data to pass along to their constituents and local businesses.

By providing the BRE with additional staff and resources, the bill will allow for more frequent updates and commentary on state and local revenues, including new, hyperlocal economic data and trends that will assist counties in developing and implementing local fiscal policies designed to serve and react to community needs.

For these reasons, MACo urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** report for SB 314.