



Date: 15 November 2021

Subject: **HCCA is in FAVOR of CB88-2021**

Good evening. My name is Stu Kohn. I am testifying on behalf of the Howard County Citizens Association, HCCA as President. We are by all means in **FAVOR** of CB88-2021. If anyone believes in preservation and cares about history then this Bill is very appropriate to ensure structures are maintained and to prevent a very negative situation.

We commend Council-member Liz Walsh for once again showing her constituents and the public that history really does matter. We undoubtedly appreciate her fortitude not only with this Bill but throughout your tenure. Thanks for your efforts. As past President of the Friends of Montpelier, a member of their Collections Committee and a member of the Collections Committee at Hammond-Hardwood in Annapolis I am especially appreciative of maintaining the preservation of historic properties.

Winston Churchill stated, "We shape our buildings; thereafter, our buildings shape us." This proposed Bill promotes this quote and should undoubtedly be passed unanimously without much question except one.

Please refer to page 1 – lines 23 and 24. The concern is if the Historic Preservation Commission were to grant the owner a waiver for compliance, then how long will the structure continue to be in a disarray? Why isn't there a specified time period to correct the situation? This should be amended to put some strength in the Bill. As it stands now it's a so what! Furthermore, what happens if the owner of the structure in question ignores the notification. We need solid enforcement rules for this Bill to be effective to ensure all Howard County historic structures are preserved to the fullest extent possible.

Thank You for listening and hopefully you will improve the Bill by implementing stricter rules of enforcement.

Stu Kohn
HCCA President