

Sincerely,  
Parris N. Glendening  
Governor

**House Bill 262**

AN ACT concerning

**Property Tax Credit - Vacant or Underutilized Commercial Buildings**

FOR the purpose of authorizing the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to provide for a property tax ~~exemption or~~ credit for certain vacant or underutilized commercial buildings that are converted primarily to housing; authorizing the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to establish certain conditions for the granting of any property tax credit ~~or exemption~~; ~~restricting the use of either an exemption or a credit for each property~~; requiring the governing body of a county or municipal corporation to submit a copy of any legislation granting ~~an exemption or~~ a credit to the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation by a certain date; and generally relating to a property tax credit ~~or exemption~~ for certain vacant or underutilized commercial buildings in a county or municipal corporation that are converted primarily to housing.

BY adding to

Article - Tax - Property

Section 7-504.3 and 9-233

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1994 Replacement Volume and 1998 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article - Tax - Property**

7-504.3.

~~(A) THE GOVERNING BODY OF A COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION MAY PROVIDE BY LAW FOR AN EXEMPTION FROM THE COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PROPERTY TAX, IN PART OR IN FULL, IMPOSED ON A VACANT OR UNDERUTILIZED COMMERCIAL BUILDING IF THE BUILDING:~~

~~(1) WAS BUILT PRIMARILY FOR OFFICE, INDUSTRIAL, OR OTHER COMMERCIAL PURPOSES;~~

~~(2) WAS LAST USED FOR OFFICE, INDUSTRIAL, OR OTHER COMMERCIAL PURPOSES, AND~~

~~(3) IS RENOVATED FOR USE PRIMARILY AS HOUSING.~~