



Advocacy Alert!

Your Help is Urgently Needed to Save the Sustainable Communities Tax Credit Program from Automatic Termination on July 1, 2012!

[House Bill 620](#) would require that a wide range of tax credits, including the [Sustainable Communities Tax Credit \(SCTC\)](#), be evaluated by a joint committee every 5 years and be subject to automatic termination unless reenacted by the General Assembly. HB620 provides that the SCTC will terminate July 1, 2012 unless an evaluation process beginning May 31, 2011 – **less than a full year after the SCTC became effective** – demonstrates its effectiveness. Currently, the SCTC is scheduled to sunset June 30, 2014.

Evaluation of the effectiveness of the SCTC only one year after its creation is premature and unfair – it is a death sentence for this important revitalization incentive program. Oppose HB620 and support the SCTC's existing sunset date of June 30, 2014.

The [Senate Budget and Taxation Committee](#) has scheduled a hearing on the bill for **Thursday, March 31, 2011** at 1:00 pm. It is critical that the Committee hears from you before the hearing so they understand how important the SCTC is to the revitalization of Maryland communities.

Take Action!

If your Senator is a member of the [Budget and Taxation Committee](#), please contact them to oppose HB620. Otherwise, please contact the Committee chair:

Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

[Edward J. Kasemeyer](#), *Chair* (410) 841-3653, (301) 858-3653

[Nathaniel J. McFadden](#), *Vice-Chair* (410) 841-3165, (301) 858-3165

When contacting your Senators, use these [talking points](#) if you need help crafting your message. Important things to remember are:

- The SCTC provides a significant return on the State's investment, generating more than \$8.50 in economic output for every \$1 invested by State government.
- The SCTC creates jobs. While most new construction costs are divided 50/50 between labor and materials, rehabilitation projects generally are 70% labor – almost always acquired locally.

- The SCTC sustains existing communities. State investment in local established communities through the SCTC helps to preserve the authentic "sense of place" and historic character of Maryland communities.

Please remember to, if possible, cite examples of tax credit projects in your community which have benefitted from these programs.

Your input is critically needed to preserve this important revitalization and job creation program. Thank you for your support!