



# PRESERVATION MARYLAND

March 5, 2018

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Preservation Maryland and our thousands of statewide supporters, I would like to offer our support of SB920/HB1046, and our belief in the value of the work accomplished by the Baltimore Museum of Industry.

Preservation Maryland is the statewide voice for historic preservation that works to protect the best of Maryland. Since 1931, we have worked tirelessly to protect the places, stories and communities in Maryland that matter.

## Support for the Bond Bill for the Baltimore Museum of Industry

Preservation Maryland emphatically supports SB920/HB1046, which would provide much needed funding to repair and preserve the World War II era Bethlehem Steel shipyard crane located on the Museum's campus on Baltimore's Inner Harbor. This project falls perfectly in line with the Baltimore Museum of Industry's mission to promote and interpret Baltimore's rich industrial and maritime history that has had an impact both regionally and nationally.

The repairs to the crane that would be accomplished through the funding in this bill, including replacing the deteriorated structural hardware and applying a new weather-resistant industrial paint system, will go far to ensure the longevity of this special industrial artifact. Preservation Maryland is extremely supportive of this project and selected the crane as one of its annual Six-to-Fix historic preservation projects in late 2017.

The Baltimore Museum of Industry serves more than 170,000 visitors annually, more than half of whom are students, teachers, and chaperones. The repaired crane would serve not only as the gateway to the museum, a dramatic beginning to their visitor experience, but as a new visual landmark on Baltimore's historic harbor.

**For our state's past, our future, and our economic prosperity, we ask you to support this bill.**

Sincerely,

Nicholas A. Redding  
Executive Director