

BALTIMORE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

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February 18, 2020

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chair of the EHEA Committee
Members of the House Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee
Sent by email

RE: Support for SB 0655, Capital Projects – High Performance and Green Buildings – Alterations

Dear Chairman Pinsky and members of the EHEA Committee,

I am writing in support of SB 0655, *Capital Projects – High Performance and Green Buildings – Alterations*, which clarifies the state requirements for green buildings and ensures equity in all public schools across Maryland including Baltimore City. The bill removes unnecessary language and clarifies the compliance paths to meet the Maryland High Performance Bill. Regardless of a school's location in the state, all schools should meet minimum requirements to ensure that students' health and well-being is protected, as are our city and state's resources – including the natural environment and financial investments.

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability is a body appointed by the Mayor to oversee the creation and implementation of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan. Our members include representatives from community organizations, labor unions, environmental groups, public health and environmental justice interests, and private industry, along with one appointed elected member of the City Council. The 2019 Baltimore Sustainability Plan addresses a wide range of social, economic and environmental goals for the City, and it does so through an equity lens.

Given our mandate to advance sustainability and equity to benefit all of the residents of Baltimore, we urge the Committee to support SB0655.

Sincerely,



Miriam Avins
Co-chairs, Commission on Sustainability

Cc: Delegate Vaughn Stewart