



Written testimony provided by The Valleys Planning Council, Inc.  
January 18, 2021

**Maryland Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee**  
**SB 330**  
**Hearing Date: January 21, 2021**  
**Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Senate EHEA Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of The Valleys Planning Council in support of SB 330 *State-Funded Construction and Major Renovation Projects – Solar Panels – Requirement* that would support our state's transition to renewable energy by requiring certain new public buildings to be designed to incorporate solar panels on the rooftops.

The Valleys Planning Council is a non-profit, land-use planning organization in Baltimore County that has been a leading voice in environmental, conservation, and land use issues since the early 1960s. In 2020, we commissioned an optimal solar siting study, which was completed by the Chesapeake Conservancy last fall. The results of our study show that ample optimal sites exist in Baltimore City and County to meet their portion of the state's Renewable Portfolio Standard goal, with rooftops being a major component. SB 330 will help efforts to increase solar energy production and do so on sites that do not compromise other important resources and assets such as forests and prime soils.

We urge the committee's support for this important bill. Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,

Teresa Moore  
Executive Director

