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Budget and Taxation Committee  
Chair, Capital Budget Subcommittee

Chair, Senate Democratic Caucus

**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

**Testimony of Senator Craig J. Zucker**  
**Senate Bill 273 – National Capital Strategic Economic Development Fund -**  
**Authorized Uses**  
**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee**  
**February 8, 2023**  
**1:00pm**  
**Position: SUPPORT**

Good afternoon, Chairman Guzzone, Vice Chairman Rosapepe, and distinguished members of the committee. It is my pleasure to testify today in **support of Senate Bill 273 – National Capital Strategic Economic Development Fund - Authorized Uses**

Each year, \$7 million is included in either the operating or capital budget to be distributed under the National Capital Strategic Economic Development Fund. The program provides financial assistance to specified government agencies, entities controlled by housing authorities, and community development organizations in the national capital region for community enhancement projects.

Senate Bill 273 repeals certain provisions of the law that requires the projects only be within the boundary created by Interstate 495. The funds will continue to only be used for community enhancements projects in sustainable communities located:

- 1) in Prince George's County, at least in part, within the boundary created by Interstate 495 in the State and the District of Columbia; or
- 2) in Montgomery County, within an enterprise zone or the boundary created by:
  - a. Prince George's County;
  - b. Maryland Route 200;
  - c. Interstate 270
  - d. Interstate 495 to the Maryland state line; and
  - e. the District of Columbia.

I urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 273. Thank you for your kind consideration.