



Prince George's County Municipal Association
An Association Of 27 Municipalities



March 6, 2023

House Bill 1209 - Environment – Flood Control – Flood Risk Assessment and Model Ordinance (Climate Ready Floodplain Act of 2023)

Environment & Transportation Committee

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Barve, Vice Chair Stein, & Members of the Committee:

The Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) writes to support House Bill 1209 - Environment – Flood Control – Flood Risk Assessment and Model Ordinance (Climate Ready Floodplain Act of 2023.) PGCMA is the membership organization for the 27 municipalities of Prince George's County and offer opportunities for networking and leadership development, and act as the voice of our municipal leaders with the Prince George's County Council and County Executive and the Maryland General Assembly.

If passed, this legislation would require the Department of the Environment to publish a statewide flood risk assessment map projected to a certain year and educate the public on certain information on or before a certain date; requiring the Department to establish a certain model floodplain ordinance on or before a certain date; requiring certain units of local government to submit to the Department for review a certain proposed floodplain ordinance on or before a certain date; and generally relating to flood risk and floodplain ordinances.

House Bill 1209 is a crucial step towards strengthening stormwater climate resiliency and supporting flood infrastructure for greater community safety in Prince George's County. The publication of a statewide flood risk assessment map is critical for communities to identify and prepare for potential flood risks. Plus, the education of the public on relevant information and the establishment of a model floodplain ordinance will provide a standardized framework for local governments to adopt and implement going forward.

We believe this legislation will create important public safety, financial, and environmental benefits across the State, and respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 1209.

Sincerely,

Melinda Mendoza, President
The Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA)

For more information call or email:

Therese M. Hessler | 301-503-2576 | therese@ashlargr.com