



Committee: Environment & Transportation
Testimony on: HB216 Condominiums-Common Elements – Clean Energy Equipment
Organization: Mizrahi Family Charitable Fund
Submitting: Jennifer Laszlo Mizrahi, co-founder/director
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: January 30, 2024

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

My name is Jennifer Laszlo Mizrahi. I serve on the Maryland Commission on Climate Change and am co-founder/director of the Mizrahi Family Charitable Fund which supports nonprofit organizations. Our family lives here in Annapolis where we have faced flooding multiple times.

I am here to urge you to vote favorably on SB206 because climate change is a massive threat and this bill will help reduce the risks at no cost to taxpayers. It also enables the same people at most risk from climate change – people with disabilities -- to be a part of creating a solution.

I previously founded and led a Maryland headquartered disability nonprofit. There are more than 669,000 disabled people living in Maryland and they are more likely than others to live in multi-family dwellings, including condos.

People with disabilities are at extreme risk from climate change. Indeed, people with underlying health conditions are more susceptible to death from extreme heat or cold. When the power goes off people who rely on oxygen can't breathe, and people who use power wheelchairs can't move. When there is flooding, fires, or extreme wind they often cannot evacuate in time, or have no place to go that has the appropriate disability accommodations.

This bill helps our state achieve our climate goals while enabling people with disabilities to be a part of the solution.

Additionally, this bill does not have a cost to taxpayers. Hence it is win-win-win for our state, our citizens, and our planet alike.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jennifer Laszlo Mizrahi
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