



ACEC/MD

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES/MARYLAND

Hon. Brian J. Feldman, Chairman
Education, Energy, & the Environment
Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Hon. Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair
Education, Energy, and the Environment
Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Organization: The American Council of Engineering Companies/MD (ACEC/MD)

Bill: SB 969 - Stream and Watershed Restoration – Stream Restoration Contractor Licensing and Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Restoration and Funding (Whole Watershed Act)

Position: Support

Chairperson Feldman and Vice-Chair Kagan,

The American Council of Engineering Companies/MD (ACEC/MD) is the representative organization for approximately 90 consulting engineering firms of various sizes across the state. These firms play a crucial role in serving both the public and private sectors by actively participating in the design and development of essential infrastructure such as public water and wastewater systems, bridges, highways, building structures, and environmental projects.

Our organization's member firms collectively employ approximately 7,000 individuals statewide, and approximately forty percent of ACEC/MD's membership is comprised of certified small, minority-owned, or women-owned businesses, reflecting our commitment to diversity and inclusion within the engineering industry. We respectfully **support** this bill.

We support the proposed legislation as it aims to enhance environmental regulations and streamline bureaucratic processes. The legislation strikes a balance by addressing the practicalities of engineering projects while upholding stringent environmental standards and promoting responsible development.

For any comments, inquiries, or further information, please do not hesitate to contact me at cfaison@acecmd.org.

Respectfully,



Chad Faison
Executive Director
ACEC/MD