



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

BILL: Senate Bill 256: Environment - Building Energy Performance Standards - Compliance and Reporting

SPONSOR: Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair (By Request - Departmental - Environment)

HEARING DATE: February 13, 2023 at 1:00 PM

COMMITTEE: Education, Energy, and the Environment

CONTACT: Intergovernmental Affairs Office, 301-780-8411

POSITION: OPPOSE

The office of the Acting Prince George's County Executive **OPPOSES Senate Bill 256: Environment - Building Energy Performance Standards - Compliance and Reporting**, altering an alternative compliance fee paid by certain owners of covered buildings under certain circumstances to include the energy use attributable to the building's failure to meet certain energy targets; requiring certain regulations to include a certain annual reporting fee to cover certain costs; requiring the Department of the Environment to deposit alternative compliance fees into the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund; and generally relating to compliance and reporting for Building Energy Performance Standards.

The bill proposes to authorize the State to collect an annual reporting fee, and an alternative compliance fee based on a building's energy. Covered buildings are defined as commercial, multi-family, or certain State-owned buildings. While the proposal excludes public schools from potential fee assessment, the potential impact on fees assessed to commercial and multifamily buildings in the County remains large. Prince George's County's portfolio of buildings is large and diverse, and is comprised of buildings of widely varied ages, construction types, and conditions. Alterations to buildings and major equipment in buildings proposed by the legislation will potentially impose expenditures in the millions of dollars to meet legally mandated status.

For the reasons stated above, the Office of the Acting Prince George's County Executive **OPPOSES SB 256** and asks for an **UNFAVORABLE** report.

