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BILL NO.: **HB 982**

TITLE: Public Utilities – Low-Income and Middle-Income Housing –
Energy Performance Targets

SPONSOR: Delegate Charkoudian

COMMITTEE: Economic Matters

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 27, 2020

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 982 – Public Utilities – Low-Income and Middle-Income Housing – Energy Performance Targets. This legislation mandates that the Public Service Commission direct the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide low-income State residents with energy efficiency and conservation programs.

If Maryland wishes to address the climate crisis, it is necessary to commit to more resourceful uses of energy. It is also necessary to understand not just the environmental, but also the economic dimensions of the climate crisis. If enacted, HB 982 would not just move the State closer to the target gross energy savings of 1% per year, it would also foster equity in Baltimore County by specifically supporting low-income County residents. This programming would be tremendously beneficial for some of the County’s most vulnerable residents without placing any additional financial costs on the County.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 982. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Chief Legislative Officer, at 443-900-6582.