



Maryland Municipal League

The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 26, 2020

Committee: Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Bill: SB 737 – Sustainable Program Maryland Fund -- Establishment

Position: Support

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports Senate Bill 737, which would establish the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund to expand and enhance Sustainable Maryland's promotion and support of communities in the State to realize environmental, economic, and social sustainability.

For nearly 10 years, the Sustainable Maryland program has been helping Maryland cities and towns reach their sustainability goals through training, resource identification, and a wildly popular certification program that incentivizes reaching those goals. Seventy-nine municipalities participate in the program, stretching from Garrett County to Wicomico County, and that number increases every single year. As the association representing the state's 157 incorporated cities and towns, the Maryland Municipal League understands how critical Sustainable Maryland's support of these efforts is to the ongoing viability of the environmental protection, community health and economic development efforts emanating from communities throughout the state.

Because the tenuous nature of Sustainable Maryland funding threatens the ongoing viability of this critical program, the League respectfully requests that this committee provide SB 737 with a favorable report.

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