

**To: Chair Anne Healy and members of the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee**  
**From: Jerry Kickenson**  
**Subject: Testimony in support of HB866 - Environmental Impact Statements - Pilot Program**

I am writing **in support of HB866** - Environmental Impact Statements - Pilot Program.

In this time of extreme climate change, environmental challenges, and efforts for environmental justice in rural communities as well as Baltimore City and Prince George's County, legislators need to know the environmental impact of the bills they are considering as much as the fiscal or small business impact. With the federal government currently scaling back enforcement of environmental impact laws, this is the time for Maryland to step up and take control of its own environmental health.

This bill is a reasonable and measured step in this direction. It's scope is limited to a few most relevant subcommittees - two in a single House committee, and one in the Senate. And the bill allows these subcommittees to waive the requirement for an impact statement if necessary to conduct timely legislative business.

I strongly urge you to reach a favorable report on HB866, and set Maryland on a clean future.

Respectfully yours,  
Jerry Kickenson  
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