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County Executive

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BILL NO.: **HB 86**

TITLE: **Capital Projects - High Performance and Green Buildings -
Alterations (Green Building Restoration Act)**

SPONSOR: Delegate Forbes

COMMITTEE: Appropriations

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: January 27, 2021

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 86 – Capital Projects – High Performance and Green Buildings – Alterations (Green Building Restoration Act). This legislation would require major renovations and school construction with at least partial state funding to be built as high performance buildings.

Since taking office in 2018, Baltimore County Executive Olszewski has been a fierce advocate for school construction. He has also prioritized long term efforts to modernize sustainability practice and procedures utilized by State and local governments with the understanding that we can simultaneously build Maryland’s children the 21st century schools that they deserve while minimizing the impact that construction and renovation have on the environment. High performance buildings are able to more efficiently heat and cool students while they learn, reducing the burden on energy consumption and the environment. LEED Silver standards and other approved building requirements ensure these buildings are constructed with the environment as a priority and as a result have a minimal impact on surrounding lands. Requiring new construction to be built with high performance standards would improve education and ensure a healthy environment for Maryland’s children.

This bill would expand high performance building requirements to all new school construction and renovations that are at least 25% state funded. As a result, SB 228 will expand sustainable construction in our schools and ensure a better future for our children.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 86. For more information, please contact Chuck Conner, Director of Government Affairs, at cconner@baltimorecountymd.gov