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February 9, 2021

Chairman Kumar Barve
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: HB0583 Testimony and Support for FSi Engineers

Dear Chairman Barve and the members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with my testimony in support of the House Bill 0583 for the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2021.

I am a past Chair of the Board for the Maryland Chapter of the US Green Building Council, Chair of the AIA Baltimore Committee on the Environment, and I have long attended the Maryland Green Building Council meetings that are open to the public. I am a Principal at FSi, with 37 employees—we are mechanical engineers with a strong focus in green and net zero building.

House Bill 0583 endures that Maryland is not left behind in the green building economy and addresses a wide host of issues that we must address to keep Maryland at the forefront of addressing climate change. The bill sets a slow pathway to carbon neutrality. Many of the provisions match or align with the Paris Agreement goals, and put us in line with other neighboring states for what our public construction will require. Most importantly, the bill looks to address environmental justice concerns, creating a working group to specifically address and correct the unequal burden of climate change.

I look forward to seeing your support and ultimately the passage of this bill.

FSi Engineers

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ben Roush', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Ben Roush, PE, FPE, LEED AP BD+C, ASHRAE BEMP and BEAP, Certified Commissioning Professional

Principal