



17 January 2022

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh
Chair of the Appropriations Committee
House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter of Support for HB 100
Sustainable Maryland Program Fund – Establishment

Dear Chairman McIntosh and members of the Appropriations Committee:

I am writing to voice AIA Maryland's support for House Bill 100. AIA Maryland represents nearly 2,000 architects in the state of Maryland and advocates for the profession and the quality of the built environment. We fully support sustainable strategies in building design and construction as we collectively work to realize environmental, economic and social sustainability for the citizens of Maryland.

We support this bill, which would encourage our next generation of leaders to apply knowledge and skills in benefit of a sustainable built environment through the efforts and activities of Sustainable Maryland a program supported by the Environmental Finance Center at the University of Maryland, College Park Campus. Importantly, this bill will enhance Sustainable Maryland's promotion and support of communities to realize environmental, economic and social sustainability.

This bill's funding with an annual appropriation of \$750,000 will support training and education to keep communities well informed on advances in sustainable science, policy and practice. The bill will provide for outreach and engagement on the critical issues of suitability, it will improve green certification tiers with new strategies, provide small grants to help community's pilot and demonstrate innovative strategies. These efforts synchronize with AIA Maryland's sustainability goals.

AIA Maryland and its membership encourages steps to improve the quality of Maryland's built environment, this bill puts the states finances in support of these ends. AIA Maryland is glad to support this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "L. Frank", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Laurence A. Frank, AIA
Director, Past President