



## Maryland Municipal League

*The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns*

# TESTIMONY

March 29, 2022

**Committee:** Senate Budget & Taxation

**Bill:** HB 653 – Conservation Finance Act

**Position:** Support

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League supports House Bill 653, which makes changes to a broad variety of existing programs related to environmental conservation and natural resources management and expands opportunities for agencies to obtain private investment and financing for State environmental projects, including conservation efforts, restoration projects, and the installation and repair of green and blue infrastructure.

Local governments could benefit from the expansion of funding opportunities for local projects afforded in this legislation. Climate change is a very real threat and MML supports mitigating its negative impacts on residents' lives, as well as municipal budgets.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League supports HB 653 and respectfully requests a favorable committee report.

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