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February 15, 2022

Chairman Paul Pinsky
Chair, House Environment and Transportation Committee

2 West Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Subject: **SB0528 Testimony and Support for FSi Engineers**

Dear Chairman Pinsky and the members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with my testimony in support of the Senate Bill 0528 for the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022.

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.

Senate Bill 0528 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 encourage you to adopt the amendments put forth by the Maryland Climate Partners, which significantly strengthen this bill.

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

FSi Engineers

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

Principal

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