SB308 - Environment - Statewide Green Business Certification Program

Date: February 2, 2022
Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
Position: Favorable
Davonte Douglas, Maryland Policy Fellow - Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund

On behalf of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund, I urge a favorable report from the committee on **SB308 - Statewide Green Business Certification Program.** As we move towards a greener future, Maryland needs to recognize businesses that are operating in a manner that reduces their environmental footprint.

The CCAN Action Fund is the advocacy arm of Chesapeake Climate Action Network, a grassroots organization dedicated exclusively to fighting for bold and just solutions to climate change in the Chesapeake region of Maryland, Virginia, and Washington, DC. We believe that the state government has a crucial role to play in mitigating climate change and should lead by example in all efforts to decrease greenhouse gas emissions. This is particularly important in the business sector, which supplies Maryland's goods and services.

SB308 builds off of the Montgomery County Green Business Certification Program by establishing a statewide green certification program that would be available for all Maryland businesses. SB308 requires the MDE to:

- Establish and administer a voluntary green business certification program that would highlight businesses operating in a manner that reduces their environmental footprint.
- Inform consumers about how to identify green certified businesses.
- Update and enhance the statewide green business certification program in consultation with the Montgomery County Green Business Certification Program..

We believe that this bill is an important policy to incentivize Maryland businesses to improve their environmental footprint and provide Marylanders the information to be conscious consumers.

Thank you for your consideration of SB308. For all the reasons stated above, we urge a favorable vote from the committee.

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