

9 February 2022

Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs **Testimony on:** SB 14 – Sustainable Maryland Program Fund - Establishment **Position:** Favorable

Re: Support for SB 14 - Sustainable Maryland Program Fund - Establishment

Dear Members of Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,

As you consider the merits of **SB 14**, I ask that you **support** this vital legislation and vote to give **SB 14** a **Favorable** Committee report.

As a Sustainable Maryland Certified city, Salisbury continues to partner with Sustainable Maryland to become an even more excellent steward of our environment and natural resources. As the Capital of the Eastern Shore, residents of our city have first-hand experience in contending with the effects of climate change. Whether faced with soil erosion in our tidal areas or the heavy flooding that has become synonymous with major storms, although we remain versatile, we must take meaningful action as we continue to adapt to the effects of chronic climate change.

By establishing a Sustainable Maryland Fund, Salisbury and other Sustainable Maryland Certified cities across Maryland will stand to benefit from training and educational opportunities as we continue to usher in advances in sustainability science, policy, and practice while engaging directly with citizens.

Here in Salisbury, we continue to respond to real issues through the transformative work of our Green Team, whose members work to develop projects and policies that promote sustainability throughout Salisbury and the Lower Eastern Shore.

As a member of the Sustainable Maryland Executive Committee, I am proud to lend my voice in support of this legislation that will stand to benefit Marylanders both in Salisbury and from every corner of our great state while positioning Maryland as a leader in the movement to effect change and pursue meaningful climate action.

I ask for your support of this legislation and request that you pass **SB 14** out of Committee with a **FAVORABLE** report

Respectfully,

Mayor

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