



## Senate Bill 302

Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Date: February 2, 2022

**Position: Unfavorable**

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This testimony is offered on behalf of the Maryland Multi-Housing Association (MMHA). MMHA is a professional trade association established in 1996, whose members consist of owners and managers of more than 210,000 rental housing homes in over 958 apartment communities. Our members house over 538,000 residents of the State of Maryland. MMHA also represents over 250 associate member companies who supply goods and services to the multi-housing industry.

Among other mandates, SB 302 requires owners or operators of a “public building” to: (1) implement a water management program; (2) conduct validation testing of water, and (3) conduct culture sampling and analysis of the building water system at a frequency determined by the Maryland Department of the Environment.

The term “public building” is undefined in SB 302 and the Environment Article of Maryland Law. MMHA’s understanding is that SB 302 is meant to apply to buildings owned or operated by local or state government - not privately owned buildings open to the public. As such, MMHA respectfully requests that the requirements of SB 302 be moved to the State Finance and Procurement Article and the bill be amended to define “public building” as a building owned or operated by local or state government.