



February 28, 2023

The Honorable C. T. Wilson
Chair, House Economic Matters Committee
House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support for HB 904, Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions - Alterations and Requirements (Energy Savings Act)

Dear Chair Wilson:

On behalf of the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), I am writing to offer our support for HB 904 that requires electric companies and gas companies to develop and implement programs that promote greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions.

As the association of local governments in metropolitan Washington, COG encourages and supports local programs aimed at reducing energy usage, costs, and associated GHG emissions. Requiring electric companies and gas companies to implement programs aimed at achieving energy efficiency benefits and annual energy savings would promote GHG emissions reductions in support of the State of Maryland's and COG's GHG emissions reduction targets. As such, CEEPC, on behalf of COG, supports HB 904, as it would contribute to the implementation of energy efficiency programs. Additionally, this legislation requires electric and gas companies to promote fuel switching from gas to electricity, which would also drive GHG emissions down.

Please contact Jeffrey King, COG Director of Climate, Energy, and Air Programs at (202) 962-3238 or jking@mwco.org if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Takis Karantonis' with a horizontal line underneath.

Takis Karantonis
Chair, Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee