



Delaware-Maryland Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Testimony Prepared for the
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
on
Senate Bill 92
February 2, 2023
Position: **Favorable**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to support energy conservation in Maryland's building inventory. I am Lee Hudson, assistant to the bishop for public policy in the Delaware-Maryland Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. We are a faith community with three judicatories in every part of our State.

Senate Bill 92 will require the Maryland Department of General Services to apply established green building standards to State facilities, increasing the portfolio of present and future structures that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. More than merely aspirational, this goal will contribute to scaling the enterprise of GGR, a policy already in place by several acts of the General Assembly.

Additionally, it will make a good citizen of the State by supporting the intentions of its legislative record. We have supported Maryland policies and goals for GGR because of our commitment to caring for created goodness ("Caring for Creation," ELCA, 1993). We therefore also appreciate the bill's consideration of wildlife conservation in its goals. Updating the standards every five years will keep the policy intent current and relevant.

We ask a favorable report, then, for **Senate Bill 92**.

Lee Hudson