

Maryland Municipal League The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 21, 2023

Committee: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment

Bill: SB 489 – Task Force to Study Solar Tax Incentives

Position: Opposed

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes Senate Bill 489, which as drafted would require local governments to process any permits required under a certificate of public convenience and necessity.

Our municipal attorneys have advised that the language of the bill would force the approval of permits that they would otherwise not *due to safety or public health reasons*. The term "process" in this context does not mean simply to take the necessary steps to approve, deny, or request changes. Instead, they read "process" to mean approve, or essentially, rubberstamp.

Therefore, MML respectfully requests that this committee provide an unfavorable report on SB 489.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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