

BALTIMORE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY

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February 27, 2023

Senator and Committee Chair Brian J. Feldman
Senator and Committee Vice Chair Cheryl Kagan
Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

RE: **Support** for SB0689, Public Utilities - Energy Efficiency and Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reductions - Alterations and Requirements

Dear Chair Feldman and Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,

We are writing in support of SB0689, the Energy Savings Act.

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability is a body appointed by the Mayor to oversee the creation and implementation of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan. The 2019 Baltimore Sustainability Plan addresses a wide range of social, economic, and environmental goals for the City, and it does so through an equity lens.

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability has a strong interest in the success of SB0689. Baltimore's 2019 Sustainability Plan calls for increased energy programs including efficiency and weatherization (Energy Strategy 1, Action 2), and for programs to reduce energy use in buildings. This bill aligns the emPOWER program with Maryland's climate goals and expands access to savings to low-income residents.

We urge the Committee to support SB0689.

Sincerely,

Miriam Avins
Mia Blom
Co-chairs, Commission on Sustainability

Cc: Senator Lewis Young