

The Town of
GLEN ECHO
Chartered 1904

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March 27, 2023

To: Sen. Brian Feldman, Chair

Sen. Cheryl Kagan, Vice Chair

Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

The Town of Glen Echo strongly supports The County and Municipal Street Lighting Investment Act. It gives municipalities a streamlined procedure to own their own streetlights and upgrade to the style and technology of their choosing.

Well lit streets are an essential component to reducing all types of crime in our communities. The approval of House Bill 459 will assist our residents, and your constituents, to be safer where they live. Making this change will enable us to ensure safety for all.

It is important to highlight the positive impact that LED lights can provide for our collective environmental health issue as these lights create a smaller footprint. We know that our neighboring towns are very much interested in streetlight ownership; therefore, we believe giving municipalities choice in this issue is empowering to our connected communities.

In the future, the Town of Glen Echo may wish to pursue updating streetlights to a new style and to LED lights, without it being prohibitively costly. LED lighting would save the Town on electricity costs and reduce needed maintenance.

We offer our enthusiastic support to Delegate Kaufman as he spearheads this issue for all interested Maryland municipalities. We strongly encourage House Bill 459 to be approved. We support it "Favorable with Amendments" and to ask that the bill be amended to restore the bill to the version that was originally introduced in the House.

Respectfully,



Dia Costello

Mayor of Glen Echo

Cc: Delegate Aaron Kaufman