

HB0552 - Innovative Infrastructure Grant - FAV WA -

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Position: FWA



February 14, 2023

The Honorable, Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
Room 131, House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Support w Amendment: HB 552 – Innovative Infrastructure Grant Program

Dear Chair, Atterbeary and Committee Members:

The NAIOP Maryland Chapters representing 700 companies involved in all aspects of commercial, industrial and mixed use real estate recommends your favorable report on House Bill 552 which creates an infrastructure investment fund to support innovative high-tech industries in Maryland.

NAIOP members recruit instate and out of state companies of all kinds including life sciences, information security and other innovative industries identified as eligible for grants created by House Bill 552. We believe the bill and its purposes are important to maintaining and advancing Maryland’s competitive position as a location where these industries can thrive.

We do recommend amending the bill to clarify that the costs of providing on and offsite energy infrastructure are eligible for grants from the program. To accomplish this, we recommend the following amendment:

On page 5 in line four after “IMPROVE,”, strike “OR EQUIP” and substitute, “EQUIP OR UPGRADE UTILITY SERVICE TO”

For these reasons, NAIOP respectfully recommends your favorable with amendment report on House Bill 552.

Sincerely,

Tom Ballentine, Vice President for Policy
NAIOP – Maryland Chapters, *The Association for Commercial Real Estate*

cc: Ways and Means Committee Members
Nick Manis – Manis, Canning Assoc.