

March 20, 2024

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman Chair of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee Senate of Maryland Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Support for HB 864, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans

Dear Chair Feldman:

On behalf of the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), I am writing to support HB 864; Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans.

Climate change is a regional priority for COG, the association of local governments in metropolitan Washington. Supporting aggressive energy efficiency goals, as well as multi-sector actions to reduce greenhouse gases are two of COG's legislative priorities, and this bill would directly assist in identifying implementation actions to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions in the State of Maryland. As such, CEEPC, on behalf of COG, supports HB 864, as it would require electric and gas companies and the Department of Housing and Community Development to develop plans for achieving certain energy efficiency, conservation, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets.

Please contact Jeffrey King, COG Director of Climate, Energy, and Air Programs at (202) 962-3238 or jking@mwcog.org if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

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Jolene Ivey Chair, Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee

cc: Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan Honorable Malcolm L. Augustine Honorable Benjamin T. Brooks, Sr. Honorable Mary Beth Carozza Honorable Jason C. Gallion Honorable Katie Fry Hester Honorable Bryan W. Simonaire Honorable Mary L. Washington Honorable Ronald L. Watson Honorable Karen Lewis Young