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Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee
Joint Committee on Federal Relations

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**SB105: Green and Renewable Energy for Nonprofit Organizations
Loan Program and Fund (“G.R.E.E.N.”)**
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Wednesday, January 15, 2025 10:30 AM

We are in the midst of a Climate Crisis, and solving it requires the work of governments, industry, individuals... and nonprofits.

Upgrading to renewable energy is expensive. Individuals and businesses can access incentive programs through tax credits that make conversion affordable. There are few, if any, loan programs for which our 43,000+ tax-exempt organizations are eligible. For the **past three years**, I’ve sponsored-- and the Senate passed **unanimously**-- a bill that would create a pathway for Maryland’s nonprofit organizations to participate in addressing our Climate Crisis.

The Green and Renewable Energy for Nonprofit Organizations Loan Program and Fund (“G.R.E.E.N.”) would establish a revolving, interest-free loan fund within the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA). G.R.E.E.N. would be financed through MEA’s Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF), which received \$304 million in 2024 alone from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI) and other sources and continues to grow. The bill requires nonprofits to contribute 10% of their projects’ costs; they will repay their loans through the savings generated by their new energy-efficient technologies.

The 2022 bill inspired a portion of the federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, creating loan programs to help nonprofits and schools upgrade to renewable energy to the tune of [\\$50](#) million and [\\$500](#) million, respectively.

I urge a favorable report on SB105.