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February 18, 2025

The Honorable C.T. Wilson
Chair, House Economic Matters Committee
230 Taylor Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: House Bill 505 - Empowering New Energy Resources and Green Initiatives Toward a Zero-Emission (ENERGIZE) Maryland Act FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Wilson and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in my capacity as the Legislative Chairman of the Building Owners and Managers Association of Greater Baltimore (BOMA) to respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 505.

BOMA, through its nearly 300 members, represents owners and managers of all types of commercial property, comprising 143 million square feet of office space in Baltimore and Central Maryland. Our members' facilities support over 19,000 jobs and contribute \$2.5 billion to the Maryland economy each year.

BOMA has been deeply involved with legislative leadership as you consider vitally important energy issues this session. We are pleased that House Bill 505 expressly validates the role of nuclear energy to help our State reach a clean energy future as existing coal-fired and oil-fired generators are retired.

We also agree with the publicly expressed concerns of legislative leadership about a looming electricity shortage. Promoting greater use of nuclear energy, which already meets 40% of electricity needs in Maryland, represents one obvious solution. Furthermore, House Bill 505 includes an important policy statement in its findings and declarations, by adding a goal to position Maryland to take advantage of benefits that may be provided by emerging small modular nuclear reactors. These are welcome additions to our State energy policy.

For these reasons we respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 434.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tim O'Donald". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Tom O'Donald

cc: Bryson Popham