

2331 Rock Spring Road Forest Hill, MD 21050 443.966.3855 info@bomabaltimore.org

February 25, 2025

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman Chair, Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee 2 West Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 807 - Environment - Local Building Energy Performance Standards – Authorization UNFAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Feldman 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 an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 807.

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.

The 2025 session of the Maryland General Assembly has included a significant number of individual legislative initiatives with potentially far-reaching impact on our State's energy policy. BOMA and other commercial and industrial building representatives have appeared before this committee with comments on legislation brought at the request of the Maryland Department of Environment, as well as House and Senate leadership. Numerous other bills have been introduced by individual members of the General Assembly.

Senate Bill 807, sponsored by Senator Kramer, is such an initiative. While we understand the desire of the sponsor to permit Maryland counties a measure of decision-making authority in this important area, BOMA believes, and hereby submits, that a consistent State policy is of paramount importance. Our current system of State regulation is enforced through our State agencies, and duplicating that enforcement mechanism, with a different set of standards and requirements at the local level, is at a minimum duplicative and would almost certainly raise jurisdictional issues during the enforcement process.

For these and similar reasons, we respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 807.

Very truly yours,

Tim O'Donald

Tim O'Donald Chair, BOMA Legislative Committee

cc: Bryson Popham