



**Testimony in Opposition of SB 807**

Environment - Local Building Energy Performance Standards - Authorization  
*Education, Energy and the Environment Committee – February 27, 2025*

The Maryland Hotel Lodging Association (MHLA) serves as the sole statewide trade association dedicated to advocacy for Maryland's 750+ hotels.

MHLA is supportive of the lodging industry doing all that is reasonably possible to assist the state with meeting climate goals. We believe SB 807 is well intended in the sense that it would alleviate confusion for buildings that are currently, or potentially will be, subject to both state and local BEPS. However, we are concerned by the possibility of our industry needing to track and come into compliance with standards that vary from one county to the next.

We understand the need for local BEPS to be "at least as stringent" as state BEPS but are concerned by language on page 3, lines 19-27 regarding approval of county standards that are "MORE STRINGENT THAN THE STANDARDS DEVELOPED AND ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT; OR DESIGNED TO ACHIEVE, BY 2040 AND THROUGH IMPROVEMENTS TO COVERED BUILDINGS IN THE AGGREGATE, GREATER ENERGY AND GREENHOUSE GAS REDUCTION BENEFITS THAN THE STANDARDS DEVELOPED AND ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

Our members have identified a multitude of challenges related to their ability to come into compliance with statewide BEPS. We are concerned that if this bill were to pass in its current form, it would create additional challenges and confusion for hotels and other buildings attempting to come into compliance.

For these reasons, we request an unfavorable report on SB 807.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Rohrer, President & CEO