

February 25, 2025

The Honorable Brian Feldman  
Chairman, Education Environment and Energy Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Climate Solutions Now Act Affordability Act of 2025**

Dear Chair Feldman:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding Climate Solutions Now Act Affordability Act of 2025. MBIA **Supports** the Act in its current version.

SB779 seeks to specify that certain requirements under the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 are to be carried out to the extent economically practicable, including requirements concerning achieving certain direct greenhouse gas emissions reductions from certain buildings, measuring and reporting direct emissions data to the Department of the Environment, achieving certain greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal and modifies several existing Maryland laws to introduce more flexibility in implementing climate and emissions reduction goals by adding the phrase "to the extent economically practicable" to various requirements.

The bill affects building energy performance standards, requiring a 20% reduction in net direct greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and net-zero emissions by 2040, while allowing building owners to consider economic feasibility when measuring and reporting emissions. It also adjusts state greenhouse gas emissions reduction plans, school bus procurement requirements, and state vehicle fleet electrification goals. Specifically, the bill allows county school boards to deviate from zero-emission school bus requirements if they are not economically feasible, sets aspirational targets for state vehicle fleet electrification (100% zero-emission passenger cars by 2031 and other light-duty vehicles by 2036), and modifies electricity procurement goals to require 75% of state facility electricity to come from low-carbon sources by 2030, again with the "economically practicable" caveat. The legislation aims to maintain Maryland's climate goals while providing more pragmatic implementation pathways that consider economic constraints.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide feedback and we would ask the committee for a favorable report on SB779.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or [lgraf@marylandbuilders.org](mailto:lgraf@marylandbuilders.org).

cc: Members of the Senate Educational Environment and Energy Committee