

Committee: Environment and Transportation

Testimony on: HB 1484 - CHERISH Our Communities Act

Submitting: Katie Bautista

Position: Favorable

Hearing Date: March 11, 2025

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Katie Bautista, and I am a student at Hampstead Hill Academy. I live in Baltimore City, in District 41. I am writing today to express my support for HB 1484 – the CHERISH Our Communities Act because this bill is crucial for protecting the health of families like mine.

I have suffered from asthma since birth, a condition that is unfortunately common in Latino communities. Many of us live in neighborhoods across Maryland that face serious health risks from multiple sources of pollution. Yet, these same communities often receive the least protections and resources to address air pollution and its harmful effects.

I also want to thank members for taking the time to meet with us on February 17 and. I urge the Committee to stand with us and vote in favor of HB 1484.

Sincerely,

*Katie Bautista*