



P.O. Box 278
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Committee: Budget and Taxation

**Testimony on: SB0023 “Green and Renewable Energy Efficiency for Nonprofits
(GREEN) Loan Program and Fund - Establishment”**

Position: Support

Hearing Date: January 21, 2026

The Maryland Chapter of the Sierra Club supports SB0023. This bill would create a zero-interest revolving loan program in the Maryland Energy Administration to support the planning, purchase, and installation by nonprofit entities of an electricity- or thermal energy-generating system for on-site use, as well as actions that improve energy efficiency, that will (as specified in the bill) assist Maryland in meeting its statutory “environmental and greenhouse gas reduction goals.” The program established by this bill will encourage clean energy expansion and innovation, thus aligning well with the statutory purpose of the Strategic Energy Investment Fund (SEIF).

Many nonprofit organizations play a prominent role in their communities, and their leadership can provide an inspiration for broader change. We appreciate the provision in the bill to prioritize applications from smaller nonprofits, those with budgets of less than \$1 million.

Increased adoption of renewable energy systems and energy efficiency measures by nonprofit entities would reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and enable more sectors of our State’s economy to participate in achieving our State’s ambitious and important greenhouse gas reduction goals. We need all sectors of the economy to join in this undertaking.

We urge a favorable report.

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