



To: Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

For: SB 23 Green and Renewable Energy Efficiency for Nonprofits (GREEN) Loan Program and Fund -- Establishment

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Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony in favor the establishment of the Green and Renewable Energy Efficiency for Nonprofits Loan Program and Fund.

I have worked as a fundraising consultant for dozens of nonprofit organizations in Maryland since 2000, and I am submitting testimony on their behalf – as well as on behalf of the 37,000 other nonprofits in the State of Maryland.

The GREEN Loan Program and Fund would provide no-interest loans to nonprofits so they can purchase, install, repair, replace, or update equipment and/or windows, doors, etc. to improve the energy efficiency of their facilities. This Program and Fund will be especially helpful to smaller nonprofits (i.e. those with budgets under \$1 million) that might not have ready access to other financial options.

The tax code provides financial incentives for individuals, households, and for-profit businesses to upgrade their residences and commercial properties. However, since nonprofit organizations generally don't pay these taxes, they are usually not eligible for the types of tax credits available to for-profit entities. The GREEN Loan Program and Fund could be a terrific way for these organizations to improve their energy efficiency, which would save them money and reduce their contribution to global warming.

Thank you again for the opportunity to present this testimony.