



12 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Bill No: HB 1100
Title: Telecommunications Infrastructure - Protections
Committee: House Economic Matters Committee
Hearing Date: March 4, 2026
Verizon Position: **FAVORABLE**

Dear Chairwoman Valderrama and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of my company to express our strong support for House Bill 1100, Telecommunications Infrastructure – Protections. This crucial legislation directly addresses the escalating problem of infrastructure vandalism in Maryland, which has become a significant public safety and economic issue.

The malicious damage or destruction of telecommunications infrastructure is a major concern, with the theft of copper cables being a prominent and constant target. This is not simply a property crime; it is a significant driver for network outages that directly impact our business operations and, more importantly, our customers.

When copper is stolen from our facilities, it immediately disrupts vital services, leading to outages for residential and business customers across the state. These outages compromise the ability of our customers to communicate, run their businesses, and access essential services, creating a severe public safety risk. Repairing this damage is costly and time-consuming, diverting capital and personnel away from infrastructure improvements and service expansion.

We believe this bill will help protect our vital infrastructure assets within the telecommunications industry.

We urge the Committee to issue a favorable report on House Bill 1100.

Thank you,

Paul Brooks Plymouth

Paul Brooks Plymouth
Director, State Government Affairs and Local Engagement