

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR TESTIMONY ON HB 870

TO: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
FROM: Maryland Department of Labor
DATE: 3/27/2026
BILL: HB 870 Environment - Permit Applications for New Buildings - Notice
(Large Buildings for Tomorrow Act)

MD LABOR POSITION: FAVORABLE

The Maryland Department of Labor (MD Labor) respectfully submits this testimony in support of House Bill 870.

MD Labor worked collaboratively with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE), local code enforcement officials, and the bill sponsor on amendments that were adopted in the House.

As amended, HB 870 would set up a framework for MDE to intervene or educate, preventing the construction of BEPS-covered buildings without the necessary compliance knowledge. The changes would require local jurisdictions to forward permitting information directly to MDE upon application for a building permit. The amendments make the bill a more efficient approach, reducing burdens on implementing parties while delivering significant impact. This approach would carry no fiscal impact on either department, is more streamlined for local jurisdictions to implement, and paves the way for future efforts toward BEPS goals/requirements.

The Department appreciates the coordination with the bill sponsor and MDE.

The Department respectfully asks the Committee to consider a favorable report on HB 870 with the adopted amendments.

For questions, please contact Andrew Fulginiti at Andrew.Fulginiti@maryland.gov