

February 27, 2026

**Testimony on:** SB780 – CHERISH Our Communities Act

**Submitting:** Carlos Alvarez

**Position:** Favorable

**Hearing Date:** March 3, 2026

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Carlos Alvarez, I am a student at High Point High School. I live in Silver Spring, in District 47B. I am a part of the Youth Leadership Academy with CHISPA Maryland. I am writing to you today to express my support for SB780 CHERISH Our Communities Act.

The reason for this message is to ask you to support SB780- CHERISH Our Community Act because it protects the environment and also our health. Pollution makes diseases like asthma and other respiratory problems worse.

I also have a classmate who suffers from asthma, and I have seen how poor air quality affects him. That is why I believe SB780 - CHERISH Our Community Act, is important, because it would help reduce pollution and protect people like him. A cleaner environment means a better quality of life for everyone.

The CHERISH Act helps improve living conditions by protecting clean air and public health. Clean air is essential for people to live healthier lives, especially in communities that have been exposed to high levels of pollution.

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony and consider this important issue. I truly hope you will support and vote yes for SB780 - CHERISH Our Community Act, for the health and well-being of our community.

Sincerely,

Carlos Alvarez