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Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC) was created as a not-for-profit corporate instrumentality of state in 2008 through an act of the Maryland General Assembly.

MCEC focuses on an economic development mission to advance the adoption of clean energy and energy efficiency products, services, and technologies with associated jobs, wages, and tax revenue for Maryland. MCEC leverages private capital and private sector capabilities; facilitates the commercialization of innovative advanced energy technologies; implements climate justice initiatives, strives to reduce energy costs for consumers, and drives reductions in greenhouse gas emissions associated with the use of fossil fuels.

HB0119 – Energy Performance Contracts - Navigators, Funding, and Requirements

Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026
Committee: House Environment and Transportation Committee
Recommendation: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT REPORT

MCEC supports the intent and purpose of this legislation and is aligned in efforts to assist local governments in identifying, planning, and implementing energy performance contracts. The legislation directs MCEC to hire or contract project navigators in all regions of the state including the Baltimore Metro Area, Central Maryland, the Eastern Shore, Southern Maryland, the Washington Metro Area, and Western Maryland. The program allows boots on the ground in communities to expand capacity and assist in reaching climate and resiliency goals.

The program proposed in HB0119 could be successfully and efficiently served by MCEC and aligns well with existing programs offered by the Center. The Procurement and Technical Assistance Services (PTAS) team at MCEC has contracted services resulting in twenty-two (22) contracts valued at more than \$76.8 M. The contracted services have resulted in more than 129MkWh of energy demand reduction, \$10.15M in guaranteed cost savings for consumers and 17,279 metric tons of CO₂ avoided.

MCEC has demonstrated experience managing loan programs, including the Clean Energy Advantage Loan Program for homeowners, the Maryland Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) loan program serving commercial and nonprofit entities, and the Maryland Clean Energy Capital Program (MCAP) financing projects for municipal and institutional entities. The Climate Catalytic Capital Fund (C3) leverages public funds to attract private capital for projects designed to mitigate the effects of climate change through greenhouse gas emission reduction and climate adaptation. **MCEC proactively pursues federal and philanthropic grant resources that could be effectively incorporated into the various programs offered through the center.**

MCEC worked with the Delegate and stakeholders to amend the legislation. The amendment expands the scope of the bill to include decarbonization solutions and clean energy projects while removing the mandate for public entities to work with the navigators.

MCEC urges a favorable with amendment report for HB0119 and thanks Delegate Vogel for his leadership in sponsoring this legislation.