



2331 Rock Spring Road
Forest Hill, MD 21050
443.966.3855
info@bomabaltimore.org

February 20, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
250 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill 723 – *Electric Companies - Cost Containment Plans - Requirement (Securing Affordable, Valuable Investments in Next Generation Grid Solutions (SAVINGS) Act)*

UNFAVORABLE

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in my capacity as the Legislative Chairman of the Building Owners and Managers Association of Greater Baltimore (BOMA) to respectfully request an unfavorable report on House Bill 723.

BOMA represents owners and managers of all types of commercial property, comprising well over 100 million square feet of office space in Baltimore and Central Maryland.

House Bill 723 creates a statutory requirement for electric companies in the State to prepare and submit a cost containment plan to the Public Service Commission not later than January 1, 2027 and for each three years thereafter. The bill creates definitions for various technologies and processes with the laudable objective of improving the reliability and resilience of the electric transmission and distribution system.

Unfortunately, the bill also imposes significant burdens on end users, such as the commercial buildings that comprise BOMA membership. For example, the bill defines “grid flexibility-enabled building electrification and efficiency” to include programs that would “encourage the use of the electric grid in off-peak hours and mitigate use during peak demand.” (House Bill 723, page 3, lines 20 through 26).

This requirement is simply not feasible for commercial office buildings. Such buildings cannot shift demand to off-peak hours, or mitigate demand during peak hours.

Furthermore, it is worth noting that the passage of the Climate Solutions Now Act in 2022 has begun an inexorable transition from fossil fuels to electricity. BOMA believed then, and we continue to believe, that the transition required under that legislation is simply not possible for many commercial buildings. This legislation would only serve to make a very difficult problem even more difficult.

For these reasons, BOMA opposes House Bill 723 and respectfully requests an unfavorable report.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim O'Donald".

Tim O'Donald
Chair, BOMA Legislative Committee

cc: Bryson F. Popham, P.A.