

Committees: Environment and Transportation
Testimony on: HB0695 Green and Renewable Energy Efficiency for Nonprofits (GREEN) Loan Program and Fund
Submitted by: Donald M. Goldberg, Executive Director
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: February 17, 2026

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express our support for HB0695. The Green and Renewable Energy Efficiency for Nonprofits (GREEN) Loan Program and Fund.

This program will enable nonprofits to:

- 1. Reduce Operating Costs**
Energy efficiency upgrades and clean energy systems lower utility bills, allowing nonprofits to redirect scarce dollars toward core services for Marylanders in need.
- 2. Enhance Resilience**
On-site renewable energy and efficiency improvements reduce dependence on fossil fuels and help nonprofits continue operating during power outages and severe weather events.
- 3. Strengthen Maryland's Economy**
Investing in clean energy projects supports local contractors, creates good-paying clean energy jobs, and reinforces Maryland's leadership in innovation and sustainability.

This bill also directly advances Maryland's climate and public health goals. Nonprofits—whether serving people with disabilities, educating our children, caring for seniors, or responding to emergencies—are uniquely positioned to model practical, community-based solutions while reducing pollution and energy costs.

The urgency is clear. From flooding in Annapolis and Ellicott City to rising extreme heat in Baltimore and growing threats to our farmers and seafood industries, climate-driven disasters are already straining nonprofit capacity and public budgets. Helping nonprofits invest proactively in resilience will reduce long-term costs and risks for the state.

Climate Law & Policy Project urges a favorable vote on HB0695.