

SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC BUILDINGS AMERICA INC.

House Bill 1040 – Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund – Mandated Uses – Climate Change Programs

Maryland House Environment and Transportation Committee

March 3, 2026

Favorable with Amendment

On behalf of **Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc.**, we respectfully offer favorable testimony with a simple clarifying amendment to House Bill 1040.

Schneider Electric works with public and private building owners across Maryland to reduce energy consumption, modernize facilities, improve resilience, and meet evolving building performance standards. Our work includes performance contracting, school modernization, fleet electrification, and deep energy retrofits.

HB1040 makes significant and historic investments through the Strategic Energy Investment Fund, including heat pumps, electric vehicle infrastructure, school electrification, and resiliency programs. We support the direction of the bill and its commitment to climate progress.

However, we respectfully request that HB1040 be harmonized with Senate Bill 622. SB622 makes a straightforward statutory clarification by adding to § 9-20B-05(f) that the Fund shall be used:

“TO PROVIDE LOANS AND GRANTS FOR BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION AND TRANSPORTATION ELECTRIFICATION”.

That is the entirety of our requested amendment.

HB1040 mandates substantial allocations for electrification-related programs, but it does not currently include this explicit authorization language. Incorporating the SB622 language into HB1040 ensures clarity in statute that building electrification and transportation electrification are core, authorized uses of SEIF.

This is not an expansion of the bill. It is simply alignment.

For building owners, school systems, and local governments implementing large-scale energy projects, statutory clarity matters. It gives the Maryland Energy Administration clear authority to deploy loans and grants for electrification projects at scale, including through performance contracting structures that leverage private capital and reduce long-term operating costs.

We respectfully request a favorable report on HB1040 with the inclusion of the SB622 language adding building and transportation electrification as required uses of the Fund.

