



**HoCoClimateAction.org**  
Howard County, Maryland

**Testimony:** [HB0695](#) - **Green and Renewable Energy Efficiency for Nonprofits (GREEN) Loan Program and Fund**  
**Hearing Date:** February 17, 2026  
**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate A. Johnson  
**Committee:** Environment & Transportation, Appropriations  
**Submitting:** Liz Feighner for Howard County Climate Action  
**Position:** Favorable

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton and Committee Members,

[HoCo Climate Action](#) is a [350.org](#) local chapter and a grassroots organization representing approximately 1,400 subscribers. We are also a member of the [Climate Justice Wing](#) of the [Maryland Legislative Coalition](#). Our organization works with residents and ally organizations to promote a safe climate and clean energy future.

We urge you to vote favorably on the **Green and Renewable Energy for Nonprofit Organizations (GREEN) Loan Program and Fund, [HB0695](#)**, which would enable nonprofits to access no-interest loans to install clean-energy systems and reduce operational costs.

Our organization has worked extensively on building electrification to ensure a safe climate and to help Maryland achieve its ambitious climate goals, including net-zero emissions. Many nonprofits lack the resources to adopt renewable-energy technologies or implement energy-efficiency measures. By establishing a targeted loan program, this bill would remove financial barriers, enabling nonprofits to access and install clean-energy systems and reduce operational costs. It will free up resources to meet their missions even more effectively.

This legislation will also help the communities that non-profits serve. Besides providing a safe environment, free of dangers of burning fossil fuels in buildings, transitioning to green energy will stimulate job creation, including in manufacturing, installation, and maintenance of renewable-energy systems. Local contractors, electricians, and other skilled workers stand to benefit, further strengthening Maryland's economy. By investing in energy efficiency and green energy, HB0695 sends a powerful message that sustainability is achievable and practical for organizations of all sizes. This program will inspire more Maryland businesses, schools, and communities to adopt smart-energy solutions while benefitting from lower bills.

This initiative not only supports our environmental objectives but ensures a more equitable energy transition while contributing to a cleaner, healthier Maryland with a sustainable future and stronger economy.

We support this bill and recommend a FAVORABLE report in committee.

Howard County Climate Action  
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