



March 11, 2026

Chairman Marc Korman
House Environment & Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairman Korman,

It has come to my attention that the Committee plans to consider *HB0245 – Maryland Energy Administration - Jane E. Lawton Conservation Loan Program and Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund* during a voting session in the very near future, with concerns regarding the fiscal note. Upon reflection, MCEC believes we can successfully manage the loan program internally using current staff, thereby reducing the fiscal note to zero.

As a state green bank, MCEC holds, manages, accounts for, and invests and reinvests funds. MCEC supports the intent and purpose of this legislation and aligns with efforts to seek solutions to provide access to affordable capital for businesses, nonprofits, and government entities. The loan program offers low- or zero-interest loans to fund energy-efficiency upgrades, reducing energy consumption and costs. We have worked cooperatively with the Maryland Energy Administration to facilitate the transition of this financing program to management by MCEC.

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.

We urge the committee to give a favorable report on SB0223, with amendments allowing MCEC to hold, manage, and account for the funds while investing and reinvesting them. We appreciate your leadership in offering this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "I. Katherine Magruder".

I. Katherine Magruder
Executive Director