



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Anthony G. Brown
Lieutenant Governor

Shari T. Wilson
Secretary

Robert M. Summers, Ph.D.
Deputy Secretary

March 9, 2010

The Honorable Thomas M. Middleton, Chairperson
Members of the Senate Finance Committee
Senate Finance Committee
3 East, Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Support, Senate Bill 713: Public and Commercial Buildings- Energy Benchmarking and Disclosure

Dear Senator Middleton and Committee Members:

As the Chair of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change, the Maryland Department of the Environment supports SB 713. The requirements of this bill are conducive to Maryland's effort to track energy consumption and encourage energy conservation efforts in both the private and public sectors. In doing so, the legislation supports the State's overall goal to reduce greenhouse gasses 25% by 2020, as mandated by the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act of 2009. As you know, due to Maryland's extensive coastline, addressing sea level rise and climate change is critically urgent.

Thank you for your consideration of this information as you review HB 713. Please contact me at 410-260-6301 or lnissley@mde.state.md.us if you would like to discuss any of these issues further.

Sincerely,

Lisa Nissley

Cc: George (Tad) S. Aburn, Jr., Director, Air and Radiation Management Administration
Heather Barthel, Director, Legislation and Policy

