



MARYLAND
Association of
COUNTIES

House Bill 517

Clean Energy Loan Program - Remediation and Resiliency

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Environment and Transportation
Committee

Date: February 2, 2021

From: Alex Butler

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** HB 517. The bill expands the purpose of local government Clean Energy Loan program to include loans for water efficiency, environmental remediation, and resiliency projects to increase the capacity of a property to withstand the effects of climate change.

As Maryland continues to feel the effects of climate change, it is clear that mitigation, adaption, and resiliency will require multi-faceted solutions. MACo supports HB 517 because it would provide counties with another way to support residents with loans under an existing clean energy loan program.

HB 517 sensibly allows local governments to offer loans to a variety of different projects that benefit their residents, thus giving counties more flexibility and resources where there is a demand. For this reason, MACo urges the committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 517.