

BALTIMORE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY  
*People ♦ Planet ♦ Prosperity*

January 26, 2021

Senator and Committee Chair Pinsky  
Members of the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

RE: Support for **Senate Bill 0414: Climate Solutions Now Act of 2021**

Dear Dear Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Committee:

We are writing in support of Senate Bill 0414, the Climate Solutions Now Act.

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability is a body appointed by the Mayor to oversee the creation and implementation of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan. The 2019 Baltimore Sustainability Plan addresses a wide range of social, economic, and environmental goals for the City, and it does so through an equity lens.

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability has a strong interest in the success of SB0414, which would help achieve numerous goals of the 2019 Sustainability Commission, including those related to Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Trees & Forests, and Local Economy. We recognize that climate change disproportionately impacts many low-wealth communities and communities of color, including impacts to health, local environment, and income. This bill will directly assist these communities by reducing harmful carbon emissions in order to improve public health; ensuring that a portion of state climate funds are spent on environmental justice communities; helping to create jobs at all levels; and increasing tree canopy in underserved urban communities.

We urge the Committee to support Senate Bill 0414.

Sincerely,

Miriam Avins  
Mia Blom  
Co-chairs, Commission on Sustainability