

MELONY G. GRIFFITH
Legislative District 25
Prince George's County

PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Budget and Taxation Committee



James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 220
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
301-858-3127 · 410-841-3127
800-492-7122 Ext. 3127
Melony.Griffith@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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Senate Bill 77 – Energy Efficiency - Net-Zero Homes - Contract Preferences

Testimony of Senator Melony G. Griffith (Favorable)

Good afternoon, Chair Pinsky, Vice-Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee. I am requesting a favorable report Senate Bill 77, also known as Energy Efficiency - Net-Zero Homes - Contract Preferences.

Senate Bill 77 requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to give preference to applications for loans that will use the services of certain small, minority, women-owned, and veteran-owned businesses. Giving further preference to loans that meet the following criteria

- Loan applications being funded by the Energy-Efficient Homes Construction Fund for a net-zero homes,
- Businesses that provide employment to employees trained through workforce development programs.

Senate Bill 77 will have a meaningful impact and create more opportunities for minority business enterprises in an energy efficient future. I appreciate your consideration and a favorable report.