

**HB236: Department of General Services - Energy-Conserving Standards
(Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2021)**

House Health and Government Affairs Committee

January 21, 2021

Positon: Favorable

Dear Chairman Pendergrass and Members of the Committee,

Clean Water Action supports the Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2021 as a method of reducing energy consumption and better protecting our birds.

This legislation impacts GSA state-funded projects, and requires that the projects include wherever practical energy-conserving features that are also bird-safe features. These practices reduce solar heat gain, lower the cost of heating and cooling, and also protect resident and migratory birds from building-strikes.

The practices, like requiring motion-sensor and/or down-shielded lights also limit unnecessary nighttime light pollution and reduce energy consumption as well.

We appreciate the hard work that both the House and Senate put into this legislation in 2019 and 2020, and ask for a favorable report to both reduce energy consumption and reduce the number of birds that hit buildings.

Thank you,

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