

Janet Gingold
13107 Whiteholm Drive
Upper Marlboro, MD 20774
301-814-1223

To: Maryland General Assembly
Re: HB 842

March 4, 2024

As a resident of Prince George's County and a member of the Prince George's Sierra Club Executive Committee, I urge you to support HB 842, an Act Concerning Environmental Justice – Investment in Infrastructure Construction Projects to ensure that federal money for infrastructure projects benefits the communities that need it most. Overburdened and underserved communities, including many in Prince George's County, have already suffered from the injustice of exposures to environmental factors that result in health disparities, with worse health outcomes including more asthma exacerbations, heart attacks, low-birth-weight infants, and cancer. Federal dollars spent will do more good if they bring economic opportunity to overburdened communities by contracting with local companies, developing and employing a local workforce, improving labor and workforce standards and promote apprenticeship programs. It is also essential that funded projects promote the adaptation of infrastructure to climate change and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. By specifying a process for oversight of the allocation of funds to ensure that at least 40% of funds go to overburdened and underserved communities, HB 842 will help to ensure that funding goes where it is needed most for the greatest positive impact.

Please support HB 842.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Janet Gingold', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

Janet Gingold