



Metropolitan Washington
Council of Governments

February 8, 2020

The Honorable Charniele L. Herring
Virginia House of Delegates
Pocahontas Building
900 East Main Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

RE: Support for HB 981, Legislative Initiatives to Enable the Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act

Dear Delegate Herring,

On behalf of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG) Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC), and the Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee (CBPC), we are writing to offer our support for your bill (HB 981) that would enter Virginia into the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

The legislation would bring Virginia into RGGI, joining our regional neighbor Maryland, and provide that revenues from the sale of carbon allowances in part, to be directed to municipalities to develop low-income energy efficiency programs and flood resiliency initiatives. Supporting climate and flood resiliency initiatives is a COG policy priority and the bill's passage will directly assist local municipalities in their flood control and management efforts.

Please contact Steve Walz, COG's Director of Environmental Programs at (202) 962-3205 or swalz@mwkog.org if you have any questions.

Thank you for your bill that would provide funding for flood resiliency, in addition to entering VA into RGGI.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Steve Walz', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Hon. Daniel Sze
Chair, Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Daniel Sze', written in a cursive style.

Hon. Jon Stehle
Chair, Chesapeake Bay and Water Resources Policy Committee

cc: The Honorable Alfonso Lopez
The Honorable Mark L. Keam