

April 2, 2021

The Honorable Mary Cheh Councilmember, District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 108 Washington, DC 20004

The Honorable Charles Allen Councilmember, District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 110 Washington, DC 20004

The Honorable Brooke Pinto Councilmember, District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 106 Washington, DC 20004 The Honorable Vincent Gray Councilmember, District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 406 Washington, DC 20004

The Honorable Brianne K. Nadeau Councilmember, District of Columbia 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 102 Washington, DC 20004

RE: Support for B24-0018, Green Food Purchasing Amendment Act of 2021

Dear Councilmembers Cheh, Gray, Allen, Nadeau, and Pinto:

On behalf of the Climate, Energy, and Environment Policy Committee (CEEPC) of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), I am writing to offer our support for Bill 24-0018. As the association of local governments in metropolitan Washington, COG supports the District of Columbia's efforts to quantify and reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from food and beverage purchases in order to assist the region in meeting its medium and long-term climate change goals, which align with our 2021 Legislative Priorities.

B24-0018 would require the District of Columbia's Department of Energy & Environment (DOEE) to adopt a methodology for estimating GHG emissions from food and beverage purchases and provide purchasing guidance to District agencies to reduce emissions. Agencies would be required to quantify emissions from food and beverage purchases and take steps to reduce emissions by 25 percent by 2030. The passage of this bill would assist the District's efforts to achieve local and regional GHG emission reduction goals. Supporting policies to meet the region's climate goals is one of COG's top environmental priorities and we support the measures this bill takes to foster green purchasing practices in the District of Columbia.

Please contact Jeffrey King, COG's Chief of Energy and Climate Programs at (202) 962-3238 or jking@mwcog.org if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Deni Taveras

Chair, Climate, Energy, and Environment

Deni Toveras

Policy Committee

Prince George's County