

May 19, 2026

The Honorable James Comer
Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and Accountability
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Robert Garcia
Ranking Member, House Committee on Oversight and Accountability
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Organizations Oppose Legislation Undermining the District of Columbia's
Autonomy and Right to Self-Governance**

Chairman Comer, Ranking Member Garcia, and Members of the House Committee
on Oversight and Government Reform:

We, the undersigned, are organizations that work to advance the interests of the people and the environment of the District of Columbia. Collectively, our organizations work across issue areas and concerns facing District residents and represent members and communities across all of DC's wards and neighborhoods.

We write to express our strong opposition to any legislative attempts to preemptively undermine the District's authority to consider, study, evaluate, or adopt policies and programs that protect the health and welfare of its residents and environment. This includes efforts to undermine the District's potential future consideration of transportation related measures, including congestion pricing models which have proven effective in other states.

While we take no position for or against the merits of congestion pricing, we specifically urge Congress to oppose H.R.8801.

Action to limit the District from adopting such standards in the future -- a measure which is not under active consideration by the DC government -- is not only premature, but unserious. In addition to chilling consideration of policy approaches by the District of Columbia Government, such an act by Congress would further threaten the District's autonomy and right to govern itself and rejects the rights of District residents and their elected representatives to act in the interest of the public welfare and public health.

District of Columbia residents have no less right to self-determination and self-governance than residents of any other state. Pursuing this harmful amendment disproportionately harms communities across DC.

We ask Congress to respect the rights of District residents and uphold the District's right to govern itself and protect the health of its residents and environment through thoughtful

consideration of policy by its duly elected leaders, and without anti-democratic and outside interference from Congress.

Sincerely,

ATU Local 689

BaltPOP - Baltimoreans for People-Oriented Places

#BetterTransitNOW

Bikemore

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Environmental Justice Ministry

Center for Progressive Reform

Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund

Climate Communications Coalition

Climate Reality Greater Maryland

Coalition for Smarter Growth

DC Environmental Network

Elders Climate Action Maryland

Fix Maryland Rail

Greater Greater Washington

Green Sanctuary, Unitarian Universalist Church of Silver Spring

Indivisible HoCo

Maryland Legislative Coalition

Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions

Sierra Club

South County Environmental Justice Coalition

CC: Congresswoman Norton