

HOUSE BILL 230

M3

8lr0433
CF SB 290

By: **Delegates Korman, Barkley, Barve, Brooks, Chang, Clippinger, Dumais, Fennell, Flanagan, Fraser-Hidalgo, Frick, Gilchrist, Glenn, Gutierrez, Healey, Hettleman, Hill, Jones, Kaiser, Kramer, Krimm, J. Lewis, R. Lewis, Lierman, Luedtke, McIntosh, A. Miller, Moon, Morhaim, Pena-Melnyk, Pendergrass, Platt, Reznik, Robinson, Rosenberg, Stein, Tarlau, Turner, Valderrama, Waldstreicher, and K. Young**

Introduced and read first time: January 18, 2018

Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: February 7, 2018

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative – Withdrawal – Legislative Approval**
3 **Required**
4 **(Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative Extension Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of altering the circumstances under which the State may withdraw from
6 the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative by requiring the General Assembly to enact
7 a law approving the withdrawal; and generally relating to the Regional Greenhouse
8 Gas Initiative.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Environment
11 Section 2–1002(g)
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Environment**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 2–1002.

2 (g) (1) In this subsection, “allowance” means one ton of carbon dioxide that
3 may be bought, sold, traded, or banked for use under the Regional Greenhouse Gas
4 Initiative.

5 (2) Not later than June 30, 2007, the Governor shall include the State as a
6 full participant in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative among Mid–Atlantic and
7 Northeast states.

8 (3) The State may withdraw from the Initiative, as provided in the
9 December 20, 2005 memorandum of understanding of the Initiative, at any time after
10 January 1, 2009, **IF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ENACTS A LAW TO APPROVE THE**
11 **WITHDRAWAL.**

12 (4) If the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative expires and there is a
13 successor organization with the same purposes and goals, the Governor is encouraged to
14 join the State in the successor organization.

15 (5) Notwithstanding § 2–107 of this title, all of the proceeds from the sale
16 of Maryland allowances under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative shall be deposited
17 in the Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund under § 9–20B–05 of the State
18 Government Article.

19 (6) If the State’s participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative
20 ceases for any reason, the Governor shall report to the General Assembly, in accordance
21 with § 2–1246 of the State Government Article, regarding:

22 (i) Why participation ceased; and

23 (ii) A plan to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from power plants in
24 the State that considers the use of Maryland grown, native, warm season grasses as a
25 possible method of reducing carbon emissions.

26 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
27 October 1, 2018.