

**March 10, 2020**

**BILL:** SB 912  
**TITLE:** Climate Crisis and Education Act  
**POSITION:** SUPPORT  
**HEARING DATE:** 3/11/2020  
**COMMITTEE:** Budget and Taxation  
**SPONSOR:** Senator Benjamin Kramer

I am writing in strong support of the Climate Crisis and Education Act and urge you to vote for this bill. My mother is a public-school teacher in Baltimore County and my father works for the University of Maryland system. My parents have instilled in me the value of education, and I truly believe that education empowers people to change the world. However, I've seen the shortfalls of Maryland's public-school system- the budget cuts, lack of support for teachers, obstacles for students to go to school. To invest in the future, we must invest in our children. However, with current greenhouse gas emissions from land use and burning fossil fuels, the future is bleak. Thousands of families in Maryland will be displaced due to sea level rise. Changes in precipitation will threaten food and water security. Children and the elderly will be more vulnerable to asthma, heat stroke, and other fatal health conditions because of poor air quality and global warming. I ask you to not just think about how this affects you, but to think of the millions of people that this legislation will impact. Think of your kids. Think of your grandkids. Think of the elderly and the most vulnerable population. Think of the legacy you want to leave. Do you want to improve education and inspire other states to reduce carbon emissions? This Bill offers the opportunity to make a true difference in the future of Maryland, and the world. I hope you'll vote for education and a greener future.

For these reasons and more, I urge a FAVORABLE REPORT on SB 912.

Respectfully submitted,

**Katherine Lord**  
**Student, Environmental Science and Policy, UMD College Park**

Cc: Members of the Budget and Finance Committee