



Citizens' Climate Lobby

BILL: HB 1543

TITLE: Climate Crisis and Education Act

POSITION: SUPPORT

HEARING DATE: 3/12/2020

COMMITTEE: Economic Matters

SPONSOR: Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo

Chair, vice chair, and members of the committee, Thank you for the opportunity to speak today,

My name is Jamie DeMarco, I represent the Citizens Climate Lobby and our 2,600 members across the state.

This bill is a rare win-win-win opportunity for the legislature. It will help fund Kirwan, reduce our emissions, and protect consumers. Specifically it will put \$350 million into Kirwan every year, it will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions about 45% by 2030, and no end use consumers will see any increase in what they pay.

I will say all that again for emphasis. This bill will put \$350 million into Kirwan every year. It will reduce our greenhouse gas emissions about 45% by 2030, and no end use consumers will see any increase in what they pay. This is truly, a win-win-win piece of legislation.

Like any good win-win-win piece of legislation, there is a unique and compelling coalition supporting the bill that breaks traditional lines of political alignment. Endorsing this bill we have:

- The Maryland State Education Association
- Sunrise Baltimore
- The Maryland NAACP
- The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland
- 1199 SEIU
- Strong Schools Maryland
- Maryland Nonprofits
- Maryland Legislative Coalition
- Chesapeake Climate Action Network
- Audubon Naturalist Society
- Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

As you might imagine, other states have picked up on this as well. Charging a tax on oil, coal, and gas to in part fund education is common practice it is currently being done in: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, New Hampshire, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

We urge the committee to give a favorable report on this bill this year.

For these reasons and more, I (your name or organization) urge a FAVORABLE REPORT on HB 1543.

Respectfully submitted,

Jamie DeMarco

State-Level Carbon Pricing Coordinator

Citizens Climate Lobby

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