



Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association  
P.O. Box 711 ★ Annapolis, MD 21404  
410-693-2226 ★ [www.mapda.com](http://www.mapda.com)

To: House Economic Matters Committee

From: Ellen Valentino

Date: March 12, 2020

Re: HB 1543 Environment – Climate Crisis and Education Act

MAPDA opposes HB 1543. The legislation is beyond complicated by establishing a huge new tax, special funds and converting the Department of Environment into a “state version” of the IRS.

Passage of the bill will have an immediate negative impact to Maryland’s economy.

1. This is a huge tax proposal that will impact every homeowner, hospital, college, and business from the time the morning light switch is turned on; room temperature adjusted; to the preparation of a BBQ dinner on the grill. The calculations are enormous.
2. The impact on seniors and fixed-income residents is overpowering. Waiting for refunds, rebates or tax returns will not work for them.
3. Additionally, the bill contains a provision that seeks to prohibit the “passing along” of the carbon tax. The effect of such a prohibition would mean a short order bankruptcy of many independent business owners across Maryland.

We request and unfavorable report.

**Feeding and fueling the economy through gas, coffee, food, heating oil and propane.**

MAPDA is an association of convenience stores and energy distributors in Maryland, Delaware & the District of Columbia.