

Introduced by: Councilmember Burnett, Henry *Bullard*, *SNEED*, *Mr Powell* *DORSEY* *Jang*

Prepared by: Department of Legislative Reference

Date: January 30, 2019

RESOLUTION

Referred to: _____ Committee

Leah Clark
Middleton
Reisinger
Stolces

Also referred for recommendation and report to municipal agencies listed on reverse.

CITY COUNCIL 19-0135R

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Supporting Coal Community Transition Legislation in Maryland

FOR the purpose of urging the Maryland General Assembly to pass and the Governor to sign legislation establishing a clear and enforceable commitment to finally move Maryland beyond coal-fired power plants, and to create a Coal Community Transition Fund to support impacted communities and workers.

NO. _____

****The introduction of an Ordinance or Resolution by Councilmembers at the request of any person, firm or organization is a courtesy extended by the Councilmembers and not an indication of their position.**

Agencies

_____	Baltimore City Public School System
_____	Baltimore Development Corporation
_____	City Solicitor
_____	Comptroller's Office
_____	Department of Audits
_____	Department of Finance
_____	Department of General Services
_____	Department of Housing and Community Development
_____	Department of Human Resources
_____	Department of Planning
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Department of Public Works
_____	Department of Real Estate
_____	Department of Recreation and Parks
_____	Department of Transportation
_____	Fire Department
_____	Health Department
_____	Mayor's Office of Employment Development
_____	Mayor's Office of Human Services
_____	Mayor's Office of Information Technology
_____	Office of the Mayor
_____	Police Department
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Department of Public Works
_____	Department of Real Estate
_____	Department of Recreation and Parks
_____	Department of Transportation
_____	Fire Department
_____	Health Department
_____	Mayor's Office of Employment Development
_____	Mayor's Office of Human Services
_____	Mayor's Office of Information Technology
_____	Office of the Mayor
_____	Police Department
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Environmental Control Board
_____	Fire & Police Employees' Retirement System
_____	Labor Commissioner
_____	Parking Authority Board
_____	Planning Commission
_____	Wage Commission
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Board of Estimates
_____	Board of Ethics
_____	Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals
_____	Comm. for Historical and Architectural Preservation
_____	Commission on Sustainability
_____	Employees' Retirement System
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____
_____	Other: _____

Boards and Commissions

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 19-0135R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Burnett, Henry, Bullock, Sneed, Cohen, Pinkett, Dorsey,
President Young, Councilmembers Scott, Clarke, Middleton, Reisinger Stokes
Introduced and adopted: February 4, 2019

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Supporting Coal Community Transition Legislation in Maryland

FOR the purpose of urging the Maryland General Assembly to pass and the Governor to sign legislation establishing a clear and enforceable commitment to finally move Maryland beyond coal-fired power plants, and to create a Coal Community Transition Fund to support impacted communities and workers.

Recitals

In 2016, Maryland enacted a law requiring the state to reduce climate pollution 40% below 2006 levels by 2030. Despite these long-term efforts, the City is presently in non-attainment for the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ground-level ozone pollution.

Currently, there are 6 remaining coal-fired power plants in Maryland, including two coal plants operating in close proximity to Baltimore, the Herbert Wagner Plant and the Brandon Shores Plant, located in Anne Arundel County. Together, all 6 plants emitted 9 million metric tons of climate disrupting carbon pollution, equivalent to over 40% of passenger vehicles on the road in Maryland.

Four of the state's remaining coal plants, including the Brandon Shores plant, routinely discharge arsenic, selenium, and mercury in concentrations that exceed the Environmental Protection Agency's Effluent Limitation Guidelines. In fact, a 2011 Natural Resources Defense Council report found that the Brandon Shores plant released the second highest amount of toxic air pollutants annually of any plant in the nation, approximately 13.1 million pounds. Furthermore, this plant discharges toxic metals directly into the Patapsco river.

Three of the state's remaining coal plants, including the Herbert Wagner plant, are operating without state-of-the-art pollution controls for smog-forming nitrogen oxides. Moreover, the Herbert Wagner plant is operating without state-of-the-art pollution controls for harmful sulfur dioxide and is one of the highest emitting power plants for sulfur dioxide (in lb/MMBtu) in the region.

It is well-documented that elevated sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide levels are leading causes of respiratory ailments such as asthma. Indeed, the asthma hospitalization rate in Baltimore is double the rate in Maryland and nearly triple the national average. Measures of poverty, especially median household income, are strongly correlated with asthma hospitalization and emergency room visit rates in Baltimore.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

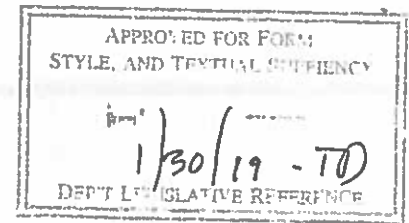
Council Bill 19-0135R

1 The Maryland General Assembly should consider Coal Community Transition legislation that
2 would establish greenhouse gas emissions standards for coal plants. In effect, the legislation
3 should set pollution standards that force the closure of Maryland's 6 remaining coal-fired power
4 plants by 2025. Noting this impact, the legislation should create a transition fund for Maryland
5 communities affected by the phase-out of coal-fired plants. This fund should set aside monies
6 annually to protect and support communities and workers traditionally reliant on these fossil fuel
7 facilities. Specifically, the fund should provide job retraining assistance necessary to allow
8 displaced workers to re-enter the workforce in a timely manner, support the growth of clean
9 energy projects in impacted communities and the redevelopment of the former power plant sites,
10 add new family-sustaining, and wherever possible, union jobs to the local clean energy economy,
11 and be governed by communities and appropriate constituencies to ensure local control of
12 community benefits.

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
14 Baltimore City Council urges the Maryland General Assembly to pass and the Governor to sign
15 legislation establishing a clear and enforceable commitment to finally move Maryland beyond
16 coal-fired power plants and to create a Coal Community Transition Fund to support impacted
17 communities and workers.

18 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor, the
19 Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City House and Senate Delegations to the
20 Maryland General Assembly, the President of the Maryland Senate, the Maryland House
21 Speaker, the Honorable Chair of the House Economic Matters Committee, the Honorable Chair
22 of the House Environment and Transportation Committee, the Honorable Chair of the Senate
23 Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee, the Mayor, and the Mayor's Legislative
24 Liaison to the City Council.

INTRODUCTORY*
CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL _____ R
(Resolution)



Introduced by: Councilmember Burnett

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

Supporting Coal Community Transition Legislation in Maryland

FOR the purpose of urging the Maryland General Assembly to pass and the Governor to sign legislation establishing a clear and enforceable commitment to finally move Maryland beyond coal-fired power plants, and to create a Coal Community Transition Fund to support impacted communities and workers.

Recitals

In 2016, Maryland enacted a law requiring the state to reduce climate pollution 40% below 2006 levels by 2030. Despite these long-term efforts, the City is presently in non-attainment for the National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ground-level ozone pollution.

Currently, there are 6 remaining coal-fired power plants in Maryland, including two coal plants operating in close proximity to Baltimore, the Herbert Wagner Plant and the Brandon Shores Plant, located in Anne Arundel County. Together, all 6 plants emitted 9 million metric tons of climate disrupting carbon pollution, equivalent to over 40% of passenger vehicles on the road in Maryland.

Four of the state's remaining coal plants, including the Brandon Shores plant, routinely discharge arsenic, selenium, and mercury in concentrations that exceed the Environmental Protection Agency's Effluent Limitation Guidelines. In fact, a 2011 Natural Resources Defense Council report found that the Brandon Shores plant released the second highest amount of toxic air pollutants annually of any plant in the nation, approximately 13.1 million pounds. Furthermore, this plant discharges toxic metals directly into the Patapsco river.

Three of the state's remaining coal plants, including the Herbert Wagner plant, are operating without state-of-the-art pollution controls for smog-forming nitrogen oxides. Moreover, the Herbert Wagner plant is operating without state-of-the-art pollution controls for harmful sulfur dioxide and is one of the highest emitting power plants for sulfur dioxide (in lb/MMBtu) in the region.

It is well-documented that elevated sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide levels are leading causes of respiratory ailments such as asthma. Indeed, the asthma hospitalization rate in Baltimore is double the rate in Maryland and nearly triple the national average. Measures of poverty, especially median household income, are strongly correlated with asthma hospitalization

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THE OFFICIAL COPY CONSIDERED BY THE CITY COUNCIL IS THE FIRST READER COPY.

and emergency room visit rates in Baltimore.

The Maryland General Assembly should consider Coal Community Transition legislation that would establish greenhouse gas emissions standards for coal plants. In effect, the legislation should set pollution standards that force the closure of Maryland's 6 remaining coal-fired power plants by 2025. Noting this impact, the legislation should create a transition fund for Maryland communities affected by the phase-out of coal-fired plants. This fund should set aside monies annually to protect and support communities and workers traditionally reliant on these fossil fuel facilities. Specifically, the fund should provide job retraining assistance necessary to allow displaced workers to re-enter the workforce in a timely manner, support the growth of clean energy projects in impacted communities and the redevelopment of the former power plant sites, add new family-sustaining, and wherever possible, union jobs to the local clean energy economy, and be governed by communities and appropriate constituencies to ensure local control of community benefits.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the Baltimore City Council urges the Maryland General Assembly to pass and the Governor to sign legislation establishing a clear and enforceable commitment to finally move Maryland beyond coal-fired power plants and to create a Coal Community Transition Fund to support impacted communities and workers.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Governor, the Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City House and Senate Delegations to the Maryland General Assembly, the President of the Maryland Senate, the Maryland House Speaker, the Honorable Chair of the House Economic Matters Committee, the Honorable Chair of the House Environment and Transportation Committee, the Honorable Chair of the Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee, the Mayor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.

ACTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL

FEB 04 2019
20

FIRST READING (INTRODUCTION) _____ 20 _____

PUBLIC HEARING HELD ON _____ 20 _____

COMMITTEE REPORT AS OF _____ 20 _____

_____ FAVORABLE _____ UNFAVORABLE _____ FAVORABLE AS AMENDED _____ WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION

Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

SECOND READING: The Council's action being favorable (unfavorable), this City Council bill was (was not) ordered printed for Third Reading on:

_____ 20 _____

_____ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING _____ 20 _____

_____ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING (ENROLLED) _____ 20 _____

_____ Amendments were read and adopted (defeated) as indicated on the copy attached to this blue backing.

THIRD READING (RE-ENROLLED) _____ 20 _____

WITHDRAWAL _____ 20 _____

There being no objections to the request for withdrawal, it was so ordered that this City Council Ordinance be withdrawn from the files of the City Council.

President

Chief Clerk