



March 11th, 2022

HEARING DATE: 3/15/2022
BILL & TITLE: - HB1033 - Energy and Environment –
Investment in Overburdened Communities
POSITION: SUPPORT
COMMITTEES: Appropriations
SPONSOR: Delegate Rosenberg and Delegate Stein

Dear Chairman, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am the Climate XChange Maryland Organizer for the Rebuild Maryland Coalition a diverse group of organizations and individuals working to establish practical solutions to reduce harmful air pollutants such as greenhouse gas emissions; hold polluters responsible for the damage they have caused; and put frontline communities first while protecting the health, economic well-being, and natural treasures in Maryland.

We know that Maryland has a long history of environmental injustice, through years of decisions placing polluting industries in communities of color and decades of underinvestment. Today, climate change is bringing heatwaves, floods, and extreme weather across Maryland. Too often, communities at the frontline of these disasters are also those that have received the greatest health impacts from pollution, the most racial and economic discrimination, and the fewest resources to tackle them.

We strongly support HB1033 because it is targeted to reverse these inequities. We appreciate the governance that this bill creates with the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities. As the bill looks to develop policies and recommendations to require at least 40% of overall spending on the programs, projects, and investments to benefit overburdened communities, we see HB171 as a policy that works well with HB1033 to spend on programs, projects, and investments in the areas of: green infrastructure; climate change; clean energy and energy efficiency; clean transportation; affordable and sustainable housing; training and workforce development related to: Climate; Natural disasters; Clean energy; Clean transportation; Water and wastewater infrastructure; Legal pollution reduction; remediation and reduction of legacy pollution.

For these reasons and more, we ask that you vote for a favorable report
Respectfully submitted,

Hope Clark
Climate XChange Maryland Organizer - Rebuild Maryland Coalition
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