

HB 1250 Support (Senate Version).pdf

Uploaded by: Balfour Albacarys

Position: FAV

INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS - LOCAL UNION No. 24

AFFILIATED WITH:

Baltimore-D.C. Metro Building Trades Council — AFL-CIO

Baltimore Port Council

Baltimore Metro Council — AFL-CIO

Central MD Labor Council — AFL-CIO

Del-Mar-Va Labor Council — AFL-CIO

Maryland State - D.C. — AFL-CIO

National Safety Council



AFL-CIO-CLC

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21230

C. SAMUEL CURRERI, President

DAVID W. SPRINGHAM, JR., Recording Secretary

JEROME T. MILLER, Financial Secretary

MICHAEL J. McHALE, Business Manager

OFFICE:

2701 W. PATAPSCO AVE

SUITE 200

Phone: 410-247-5511

FAX: 410-536-4338

Written Testimony of

Rico Albacarys, Assistant Business Manager, IBEW LOCAL 24

Before the

Senate Finance Committee On

HB 1250 Task Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives

Support

March 30, 2022

Madame Chair Kelley and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony in **support** of House Bill 1250.

My name is Rico Albacarys and I'm an employee and member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 24, in Baltimore.

Maryland is at a crossroads in its future of energy generation. We as a society have the resources and foresight to improve our methods of generating energy. This can and should be done, while considering the needs of working men and women in Maryland. The task force created by HB 1250 is a valiant first step in accomplishing this.

This is why I'm asking you to give HB 1250 a **favorable** report.

Sincerely,

Rico Albacarys

Assistant Business Manager

HB1250_MD_Solar_Investment_Tax_Credit_MLC_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Cecilia Plante

Position: FAV



TESTIMONY FOR HB1250
Maryland Solar Investment Tax Credit and Task Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Feldmark

Committee: Finance

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB1250 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state with well over 30,000 members.

Solar panels are expensive, but well worth the initial investment. This bill will help owners install solar by offering a tax credit of 15% of the installed costs. If the solar is installed on a rooftop or parking canopy, an additional 10% credit will be available.

Our members love the investment in clean, renewable energy. But even more than that, the tax credits only apply if the taxpayer can show that any companies they used to install the solar had a project labor agreement, paid each trade the prevailing wage rate, participated in an apprenticeship program, offered health care and pension benefits, and offered employment Maryland residents, including women, minorities and veterans.

Now, that is how you ensure that labor concerns are front and center of environmental projects!

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.

HB1250_CHESSA_Crossover_FAV.pdf

Uploaded by: Isaac Meyer

Position: FAV



Favorable with Amendments

House Bill 1250

Maryland Solar Investment Tax Credit and Task Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives

Ways and Means Committee

March 31, 2022

Honorable Delores Kelley
Chair, Finance
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chair Kelley, Vice-Chair Feldman, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Chesapeake Solar & Storage Association (CHESSA), thank you for the opportunity to issue our testimony in **support of House Bill 1250**. This legislation establishes a task force to examine solar energy incentives in the context of how the State can create and align them with its goal for better wages and labor standards. Furthermore, it ensures an analysis of how incentives should differ to address different types of solar development such as customer-sited, community, and utility scale. We strongly encourage this discussion and assessment and look forward to participating on the task force.

On behalf of CHESSA, we want to thank Delegate Feldmark for her interest in this important topic and thank you for your consideration of our testimony. Should you have any further questions, do not hesitate to reach out to me at sjohnson@chessa.org.

Submitted by:
Stephanie Johnson
Executive Director

Finance Committee HB 1250 Maryland Solar Investmen

Uploaded by: Jeffry Guido

Position: FAV



- Electrical Workers
- Insulators
- Boilermakers
- United Association
- Plumbers & Gas Fitters
- Sprinkler Fitters
- Steam Fitters
- Roofers
- Cement Masons
- Teamsters
- Laborers
- Bricklayers
- Ironworkers
- Sheet Metal Workers
- Elevator Constructors
- Painters
- Operating Engineers
- Carpenters

Maryland Senate Finance Committee

Chair: Delores G. Kelley

Vice Chair: Brian J. Feldman

House Bill 1250 Maryland Solar Investment Tax Credit and Task Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives

Position: **SUPPORT**

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council supports House Bill 1250. Tax incentives are public dollars and should be used to benefit and support working families. The solar and wind energy industry does not currently provide family sustaining wages and benefits comparable to employment in the nuclear, natural gas, fuel oil or coal industry. As Maryland is intent on moving away from the use of fossil fuels and increasing its reliance on renewable energy it is imperative to set the labor standards and conditions for the installation and expansion of these utilities. Prevailing wages which include apprenticeships provide the trained certified and licensed skilled crafts persons that will install these systems safely and economically. The establishment and execution of a plan for outreach, recruitment, and retention of Maryland residents to perform work on the project—including residents who are returning citizens, women, minority individuals, and veterans—with an aspirational goal of 25 percent of total work hours performed by Maryland residents, including individuals in one or more of the groups identified. The application and protection of these standards will protect Maryland's working men and women and empower Maryland's middle class.

We ask the committee for a favorable vote. Thank you.

Respectfully,

Jeffry Guido - Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council

Value on Display... Everyday.



Value on Display... Everyday.



2022- HB1250 PHI_FAV_3.31.22.pdf

Uploaded by: Katie Lanzarotto

Position: FAV



March 31, 2022

112 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Support – House Bill 1250
House Bill 1250 Task Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives**

Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco) and Delmarva Power & Light Company (Delmarva Power) support with amendments House Bill 1250 Maryland Solar Investment Tax Credit and Task Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives. House Bill 1250 creates a task force to study solar energy incentives, which include grant programs, tax credits, solar renewable energy credits and other financial incentives.

Pepco and Delmarva Power are committed to powering a cleaner and brighter future for our customers and communities. Our customers have more choices than ever before in receiving reliable, clean, affordable and innovative energy products, and we are committed to driving that progress. As part of our commitment, we support solar as an opportunity for customers to benefit from clean energy. House Bill 1250 creates a task force to further study solar incentives for customers that now includes representation for electric companies. Pepco and Delmarva Power look forward to discussions around how the solar alternative compliance fee is calculated, how various incentive programs help the state achieve its RPS goals, and the market relationship to the value of solar renewable energy credits (REC's).

For the above reasons Pepco and Delmarva Power respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 1250.

Contact:

Katie Lanzarotto
Senior Legislative Specialist
202-428-1309
Kathryn.lanzarotto@exeloncorp.com

HB1250 (Senate) - Support .pdf

Uploaded by: Kristen Harbeson

Position: FAV



MARYLAND
LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION
VOTERS

Kim Coble
Executive Director

March 31, 2022

2021 Board of
Directors

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Mike Davis, Treasurer
The Hon. Virginia
Clagett
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Verna Harrison
Melanie Hartwig-Davis
The Hon. Steve Lafferty
Patrick Miller
Bonnie L. Norman
Maris St. Cyr
Katherine (Kitty)
Thomas

SUPPORT: HB1250: Task Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives

Madame Chair and Members of the Committee:

Maryland League of Conservation Voters is pleased to lend our support to HB1250: Task Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives and thank Delegate Feldmark for her leadership on this issue.

In order to confront the growing threat of climate change, Maryland must continue to take bold steps to support and incentivize the investment and expansion of our solar energy portfolio, especially smaller projects that can be built on rooftops, parking lots, brownfields. The General Assembly has several opportunities to advance these projects this year, including HB76/SB264, and which seeks to provide support for community solar programs. All of these bills work in concert to support expansion of smaller solar projects which are important for our state efforts to confront our climate crisis and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels.

In addition to supporting solar energy development and the jobs that they create, we need to ensure that those jobs are good quality, family sustaining jobs. This bill seeks to create a task force to identify other opportunities to incentivize quality family sustaining jobs within the solar industry. We are grateful that low and moderate income - or LMI - communities, as well as those in overburdened communities, are addressed in this task force through the inclusion of at least one member that works specifically with solar development serving LMI communities. We are grateful to the sponsor for including the Climate Access Fund to serve this role.

Maryland LCV strongly urges a favorable report on this important bill.

HB 1250 AIAMD Ltr of Support for Senate Finance.pd

Uploaded by: Sandi Worthman

Position: FAV



March 29, 2022

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Support for House Bill 1250
Maryland Solar Investment Tax Credit and Tax Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives

Dear Senator Kelley and members of the Senate Finance Committees:

I am writing to voice AIA Maryland's support for House Bill 1250. AIA Maryland represents nearly 2,000 architects in the state of Maryland and advocates for the profession and the quality of the built environment. As architects, we fully support sustainable strategies in building design, construction, and technology as we collectively work to realize environmental, economic and social sustainability for the citizens of Maryland.

We recognize that buildings alone are responsible for approximately 39% of the global greenhouse emissions and that we need to reduce our appetite for energy consumption. The latest climate data tells us that reducing carbon emissions is not enough. To make the biggest impact, we must all commit to net zero emissions by 2030 – a path that requires strong, immediate action. The AIA 2030 challenge is driving many of our members to strive for carbon neutral major renovations and new buildings by 2030. At AIA Maryland, we are fully in support of this move away from fossil fuels and, as we continue to design our buildings to be more efficient, a switch from fossil fuels to electrification and renewable resources.

Our homeowners can play an important role in transitioning our own state away from fossil fuels, as nearly 21% of electricity use is residential and 28% of natural gas use is residential. Of Maryland's renewable energy resources, solar development has been growing the most over the past few years. It is in the state's interest to encourage and incentivize our taxpayers to install solar technology on their residential properties. HB 1250 will ensure that our homeowners will be incentivized to be part of the climate solution. This bill allows a taxpayer to claim a credit against their state income tax for certain costs incurred while installing solar energy technology. The Maryland Energy Administration will be responsible for administering the tax credit. Further, HB 1250 will also establish a Task Force to study the state's existing solar energy incentives and make recommendations in regard to providing measures that ensure that solar energy development in the State of Maryland *also* creates good quality, family-sustaining jobs. We recognize that taking care of our environment only works if we are also taking care of our people. As our citizens and communities shift to carbon neutrality, it makes good sense that our homeowners be leading the way in meeting these reduction targets to reach carbon neutrality by 2035.

A healthy climate is key to a healthy and safe future for us, our children, and our grandchildren. By implementing common sense climate solutions today, we can preserve a livable planet, clean air and clean water for generations to come. A healthier climate and safer future are possible, but only if we act fast. We encourage you to make a commitment to both the natural and built environment and for the citizens of Maryland by supporting this bill. AIA Maryland is glad to support this bill and we ask for your vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "E. Nook".

Elizabeth Nook, AIA
President

BEFORE SENATE FINANCE_ HB 1250 Victoria Leonard Li

Uploaded by: Victoria Leonard

Position: FAV



March 31, 2022

The Honorable Delores Kelley, Chair, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Brian Feldman, Vice Chair, Senate Finance Committee
Miller Senate Office Building - 3 East
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

HB 1250 – Maryland Solar Investment Tax Credit and Task Force to Study Solar Energy Incentives

Position – Favorable

Thank you Chair Kelley and Vice Chair Feldman and Members of the Senate Finance Committee for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 1250.

My name is Victoria Leonard, Political and Legislative Director for the Baltimore-Washington Laborers' District Council (BWLDC), an affiliate of the Laborers' International Union of North America, or LiUNA for short. The BWLDC represents more than 7,500 members across Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Our members are proudly employed on many infrastructure construction projects across the region, and about one-third of our members are Maryland residents.

LiUNA supports HB 1250 and its establishment of a tax credit program for electric generation facilities 2 MW or less. We especially appreciate that HB 1250 includes as a condition of the tax credit that the taxpayer attest that the project's contractors and subcontractors paid prevailing wages (or had a project labor agreement in place), offered health care and retirement benefits, participated in registered apprenticeship programs, had no wage and hour law violations in the preceding three years, held all appropriate licenses, and had and executed a plan to recruit, train, and employ state residents on the project.

Creating a tax incentive is a great way to promote labor standards on energy generation projects 2MW or smaller. That is because energy developers and construction contractors sometimes engage in business practices that do not promote quality jobs for local residents or opportunities for local businesses. These practices include: use of a traveling workforce, effectively boxing out opportunities for local employment; reliance on temporary staffing agencies like PeopleReady, whose workers in several states are paid wages so low they receive federal food assistance and Medicaid benefits; and misclassification of workers as 1099 independent contractors to avoid payroll taxes.

Moreover, the proposed tax credit also promotes the General Assembly's goal to create quality infrastructure jobs.

LiUNA urges the committee to vote favorably on HB 1250.