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LEAGUE OF  
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VOTERS

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March 31, 2022

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## **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.