



HB0839- Investor-Owned Electric Companies - Clean Energy Homes Pilot Programs - Establishment (Maryland Resilient and Clean Energy Homes Act)

Testimony before Economic Matters Committee

March 2, 2023

Position: Favorable

Mr. Chair, Mr. Vice Chair, and members of the committee, my name is Barbara Matheson, and I represent the 750+ members of Indivisible Howard County. Indivisible Howard County is an active member of the Maryland Legislative Coalition (with 30,000+ members). We are providing written testimony in **support of HB0839.**

SB0663 establishes the Maryland Resilient and Clean Energy Homes Act. The bill requires that each electric company file with the Maryland Public Services Commission an application for approval of a pilot program to support residential customer's adoption of greenhouse gas reducing electrification measures. The deadline for filing is January 1, 2024. Pilot programs will be for a period of three years. Electric company programs shall include grants or rebates to customers and contractors to offset the reasonable costs of purchasing equipment and on-site clean energy systems and generators. Rebates shall be higher for low-income residents. The pilot programs will apply to both single family and multiple residences. The Public Service Commission shall approve, deny, or modify the electric company's pilot program request within 30 days of receipt.

The Maryland Resilient and Clean Energy Homes Act is a bold and necessary step toward reaching the goals for reduced greenhouse gas emissions established by the Climate Solutions Now Act passed in 2022. The Federal 2021 Infrastructure Law will offer \$225 million to states to adopt and implement better energy codes. In addition, the Inflation Reduction Act will provide \$1 billion for state to adopt energy codes that meet or beat the nation model. Maryland must position itself to be competitive for these funds.

We respectfully urge a favorable committee report.

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