



SB143

**Electricity – Net Energy Metering – Accrual of Net Excess Generation
(Net Metering Flexibility Act)**

Testimony before Education, Energy, and the Environment

Hearing Feb. 21, 2023

Position: FAVORABLE

Senator Feldman and members of the committee, my name is Elizabeth Fixsen, and I represent the 700+ 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 today in **support of SB143** (companion to HB068). We thank Senator Feldman for sponsoring this bill.

Homeowners or business owners who have installed an eligible solar energy system can receive kilowatt hour credits on their energy bills when they generate more electricity than they use in a month. The bill will give greater flexibility to such customers by allowing them to accrue net excess generation for an indefinite period of time, instead of for just 12 months, which is the current limit. This new provision would provide additional incentives for installation of solar panels in homes and business.

As our planet is facing catastrophic effects from climate change, it is imperative that state and local governments, as well as individuals, take every possible measure to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, which means reducing use of fossil fuels. Every measure that encourages more use of solar panels to generate electricity helps to reduce the use of fossil fuels to generate electrical power. Maryland is leading the way with many state and local government initiatives to promote renewable energy, and HB0068 is one of them.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

We respectfully urge a favorable report.

Elizabeth Fixsen
Savage, MD

More about net metering: <https://www.leafscore.com/solar-guide/solar-101/what-is-net-metering/>