



TESTIMONY FOR SB0143
Electricity – Net Energy Metering – Accrual of Net Excess Generation (Net Metering Flexibility Act)

Bill Sponsor: Senator Feldman

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS**

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0143 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.

Our members are very supportive of solar energy in the state, and believe that it is one of the main technologies that we can employ to clean up our energy grid. This bill is designed to help those who have taken on the expense of installing solar panels on their homes to better take advantage of the credits that they receive by delivering excess solar energy into the grid. Instead of being forced to take those credits in April, it allows them to take the credits to offset their electric bill during the summer, when their own electric needs are higher.

This is a very good thing, and we fully support this change. The problem we see here is a bigger one. Low-income households cannot afford to purchase solar for their rooftops, and so they will never see credits like this. It would be a more focused environmental justice solution to allow homeowners with the credits to put all, or part of their credits into a fund for low-income households. We feel that this addition to the bill will provide the greatest benefit to everyone.

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