

Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

January 24, 2024

**Re: SB 146 / Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Feldman and members of the Committee:

**I'm a resident of Frederick, Maryland and I am writing to ask for your support of the Reclaim Renewable Energy Act (SB 146) to eliminate trash incineration from Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS).**

**I believe most citizens in Maryland would be surprised and disappointed to learn that Maryland's renewable energy dollars are being spent in support of dirty energy sources, rather than going completely toward REAL renewable energy.**

In Frederick, many of our residents began their opposition to incineration being included in Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard as a result of all that we learned about the negative financial and environmental consequences of trash incineration when a project was proposed to be built here more than a decade ago.

But the point of this bill is not to shut down incinerators. The point is to stop subsidizing them by providing them with Tier One status in the RPS.

**I'm proud that Maryland has made strong commitments to take action on climate change, but allowing Renewable Energy Credits to be purchased from incinerators is greenwashing — not real action on climate change. In fact, Maryland Dept. of the Environment and the Maryland Commission on Climate Change are both in support of SB 146.**

Again, please support SB 146 to assure that Maryland is subsidizing only REAL clean energy solutions.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Patrice Gallagher  
Co-founder, Frederick Zero Waste Alliance  
102 W Church Street  
Frederick MD 21701