



Committee: Environment and Transportation
Testimony on: HB1008 - Fossil Fuel Transportation Fee and Mitigation Fund
Organization: Maryland Legislative Coalition Climate Justice Wing
Submitting: Dave Arndt, Co-Chair
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: March 1, 2024

Dear Mr. Chair and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing our testimony today in support of HB1008. The Maryland Legislative Coalition Climate Justice Wing, a statewide coalition of nearly 30 grassroots and professional organizations, urges you to vote favorably on HB1008.

HB1008 builds upon the existing 8-cent per barrel fee for oil transfers, to include coal and natural gas. In FY22, the oil transfer fee alone generated over \$6.8 million, funding environmental cleanup and contingency efforts. It is estimated that HB1008 would bring in roughly \$250 million a year.

The benefits of HB1008 are clear:

- We are in a Climate Crisis and this bill encourages cleaner transportation methods and reduced reliance on fossil fuels.
- This bill is a pivotal step towards Maryland's ambitious clean energy targets by ensuring a fair contribution from fossil fuel transports to the state's environmental and clean energy funds.
- Fighting climate change and mitigating the effects of climate change are expensive propositions and are especially difficult when Maryland has a constrained budget. This bill provides additional funding which can further our leadership in climate solutions, support equitable energy access, and protect our natural resources for future generations.

We strongly support this bill; however, we recommend these two amendments:

- 40% of funds need to be spent to address impacts in underserved or overburdened communities.
- Include an escalating fee structure to further support our efforts to combat climate change and encourage a reduced reliance on fossil fuels.

For all of these reasons, we strongly support HB1008 and urge a **FAVORABLE** report in Committee.

350MoCo
Adat Shalom Climate Action
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church Environmental Justice Ministry
Chesapeake Earth Holders
Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility

Climate Parents of Prince George's
Climate Reality Project
ClimateXChange – Rebuild Maryland Coalition
Coming Clean Network, Union of Concerned Scientists
DoTheMostGood Montgomery County
Echotopia
Elders Climate Action
Fix Maryland Rail
Glen Echo Heights Mobilization
Greenbelt Climate Action Network
HoCoClimateAction
IndivisibleHoCoMD
Maryland Legislative Coalition
Mobilize Frederick
Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions
Montgomery Countryside Alliance
Mountain Maryland Movement
Nuclear Information & Resource Service
Progressive Maryland
Safe & Healthy Playing Fields
Takoma Park Mobilization Environment Committee
The Climate Mobilization MoCo Chapter
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland
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