

ADRIAN BOAFO
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Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
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Chairman Marc Korman
Environment and Transportation Committee
House Office Building, Room 251
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chairman Korman, Vice-Chair Boyce and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

Globally, 2023 was the hottest year ever recorded - 1.48 degrees centigrade above pre-industrial temperatures. As a state with an enormous ocean and bay coastline, Maryland is particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Maryland's buildings are a significant source of greenhouse gas emission, accounting for about a third of Maryland's carbon pollution.

HB1279 requires construction of all new buildings and certain renovations be all-electric by 2035 to meet the state's zero-emission-ready standards. Buildings that provide parking will also be required to be EV-capable or EV-ready and larger buildings will be required to be solar-ready.

All-electric buildings lower costs, improve health outcomes, and reduce our contribution to climate change. Many Maryland builders are already meeting these standards because it is cheaper to not implement both electrical systems and gas systems, so there are no gas fees to be paid.

However, we acknowledge that HB1279 must be flexible for systems and areas that cannot feasibly use non-fossil fuel energy. Jurisdictions are permitted to grant waivers for certain types of buildings such as laboratories, laundromats, hospitals, and crematoriums.

HB1279 takes an effective approach to requiring healthy, energy efficient, and climate appropriate buildings in Maryland.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adrian Boafo".

Delegate Adrian Boafo