



**SB0316-SUPPORT**

Teaera Strum

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SB 0316- Abundant, Affordable Clean Energy Procurement and Development (AACE Act)

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Education, Energy and Environment Committee,

On behalf of my organization Strum Contracting Company Inc, I urge a favorable report on SB0316.

The AACE Act provides a path forward to addressing resource adequacy in the state and alleviating the burden on Maryland ratepayers, while providing important protections for labor to ensure Maryland's workers receive, amongst other things, fair wages and benefits for their work in building a sound energy future. Critically, AACE brings on new energy projects that serve Maryland's load requirements within this decade on a least-cost basis, while allowing flexibility to respond to potential shifts in future energy markets. This combination of rapidity, low-cost, and flexibility makes AACE a "no regrets" path to achieving resource adequacy to meet current and future electric load requirements in Maryland.

The AACE Act provisions allow for project flexibility, focused incentives to spur development, ensuring that energy projects will directly benefit the state's energy requirements, directly benefiting ratepayers, and ensuring workers in Maryland benefit from the projects they build and maintain. AACE's pathway to energy development is in line with the State's carbon reduction goals, allows for the flexibility to respond to future energy demands, and provides solutions to resource adequacy in this decade.

In today's economic climate, Maryland must act and pass the AACE Act to ensure we can secure a clean energy for our future Marylanders. We request this Committee issue a favorable report on HB 398.

Sincerely,

*Teaera Strum*

Teaera Strum, CEO  
Strum Contracting Company Inc.