

SB804 - SUPPORT

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SB804- Better Buildings Act

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

My name is David Liu and I am a sophomore at Marriotts Ridge High School in Howard County. As the son of two scientists, I have understood from an early age the importance of clean energy, and the role it plays in protecting our health. Last summer, I had the opportunity to conduct climate research at the University of Maryland, and I've learned through field data collection how our reliance on fossil fuels poses future risks.

Most importantly, I learn about the detrimental effects of our reliance on fossil fuels in school. We watch documentaries, read articles, and write reports on their contribution to climate change and the endangerment of public health. If we know that burning fossil fuels pollutes our air, why should we not take every opportunity to reduce its use?

My county and Montgomery County have already enacted a version of this bill, and I believe that it is important to recognize the bill's value state-wide as well as consider the voices of students like me, who will ultimately inherit the consequences of the decisions made today. If we as students are expected to learn about the importance of reducing fossil fuel dependence, then our leaders should be just as responsible to support policies for a sustainable future.

Looking around, I understand the power to turn what we learn in the classroom into real change lies here in the Senate.

On behalf of my peers, I urge a favorable report on SB804.

Thank you.