

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14

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2003 Regular Session  
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By: **Delegates Walkup, V. Clagett, Conway, Feldman, Krebs, Smigiel, Sossi,  
and Trueschler**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **Renewable Energy Sources**

3 FOR the purpose of supporting and encouraging the use of renewable energy sources  
4 in the State; urging investment in certain research and development in the  
5 State; urging State units to promote the use of and rely more on renewable  
6 energy sources; and generally relating to renewable energy sources.

7 WHEREAS, Renewable energy sources such as wind, ocean, biomass, wood,  
8 waste, and geothermal energy are practically inexhaustible or can be regenerated or  
9 recycled, and are less polluting; and

10 WHEREAS, Fossil fuels are nonrenewable energy that is being consumed more  
11 rapidly than they are created and, as a result, fossil fuels may not be able to keep up  
12 with future demand; and

13 WHEREAS, Solar energy is the most abundant form of energy and the available  
14 technology to use solar energy is not being used to the extent possible; and

15 WHEREAS, Biomass energy, made of organic materials such as nonfood  
16 agriculture crops and household, industrial, and forestry wastes, could be converted  
17 into enough biofuels and electricity to supply a major portion of our country's current  
18 consumption needs; and

19 WHEREAS, New technologies are increasing the amount of electricity produced  
20 by renewable energy sources; and

21 WHEREAS, Renewable energy programs can save money, create jobs, and  
22 strengthen the local economy; and

23 WHEREAS, Biomass can also be converted into biofuels such as ethanol to meet  
24 growing transportation needs, which could produce an enormous reduction in the  
25 nation's dependency on foreign oil, and compared to reformulated gasoline,  
26 biomass-generated ethanol also produces 90% less carbon dioxide and 70% less sulfur  
27 dioxide--the major causes of global warming and acid rain; and

1 WHEREAS, President Bush issued a directive in 2001 for the Department of the  
2 Interior and the Department of Energy to examine the potential to develop renewable  
3 energy on federal lands; now, therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the  
5 General Assembly supports and encourages the use of renewable energy sources in  
6 the State; and be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly urges investment in renewable energy  
8 research and development in the State; and be it further

9 RESOLVED, That the General Assembly urges State units to promote the use of  
10 and rely more on renewable energy sources; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of  
12 Legislative Services to the Honorable Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Governor of Maryland;  
13 the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and  
14 the Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates.