



**MDV-SEIA**

**Before the General Assembly of the State of Maryland  
House Economic Matters Committee  
February 13, 2020**

**Testimony of David W. Murray  
Executive Director**

**Maryland-DC-Delaware-Virginia Solar Energy Industries Association (MDV-SEIA)  
HB 0494 "Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Solar Energy - Municipal Electric  
Utilities"**

**OPPOSE  
WRITTEN ONLY**

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 494. My name is David Murray and I serve as Executive Director of MDV-SEIA, the local solar trade association representing over 4,500 solar installers, developers, manufacturers, and other solar workers in Maryland.

At peak demand, municipal electric utilities account for approximately 142 MW out of 14,500 MW of Maryland's total peak demand, or less than 1%. This exemption will have a minute depressive impact on solar deployment statewide. Given the current solar target for load serving entities in Maryland is already 2.5%, we suggest municipalities consider a higher target to demonstrate leadership in what will be Maryland's largest, local renewable resource. From school rooftops to parking canopies, municipalities have a tremendous opportunity to leverage the benefits of solar generation. We advise the sponsor to not let the municipal target languish at 2020 while the rest of the state meets nearly 15% of its generation needs with solar power.

MDV-SEIA encourages the committee to raise the carveout obligation to 5% by 2030. While this target is far less ambitious than the current target of 14.5%, it should serve to spur greater clean energy deployment from Frederick to Easton.

Thank you for your consideration.