



February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Member Delegates of the Economic Matters Committee:

I am writing to request your favorable support for **HB 1426** "Economic Development – Advanced Clean Energy and Clean Energy Innovation Investments and Initiatives."

My name is Corey Ramsden, and I serve as the Vice President for Go Solar Programs at Solar United Neighbors, a non-profit organization of solar homeowners and supporters from all over the state. To date, we have helped our members install 5 MW of solar capacity, with homeowners investing more than \$14 million dollars in the state's clean energy economy.

I previously served as the Program Director for our Maryland program and know the work MCEC does well. This bill is important to my organization because we support the development of the advanced energy economy in Maryland, and believe that the state is making a smart investment in the Maryland Clean Energy Center as a way to encourage the successful adoption of clean energy generation, energy efficiency measures and innovative emerging energy technologies.

MCEC provides significant value to growth the industry sector through innovative finance and technical expertise. In leveraging capital to achieve its mission, they have the capability and flexibility to do what the public sector cannot and the private sector will not. In both formal and informal ways, MCEC successfully facilitates partnerships and relationships to create business and employment opportunities. They have also been an important convener on issues surrounding renewable energy financing and other related issues.

To date, MCEC has leveraged private investment at a ratio of almost 19 to 1 for every public dollar spent. For this success to continue MCEC must have a stable definitive commitment of revenue to help support its operation and signal to project partners and capital providers that they can predictably count on MCEC for investment transactions. This legislation calls for such a commitment which we believe is a worthy investment.

Your consideration and favorable support of **HB 1426** will be much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Corey Ramsden  
VP, Go Solar Programs  
Solar United Neighbors  
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