



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

*Environmental Protection and Restoration
Environmental Education*

House Bill 1425

Climate Solutions Act of 2020 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act

CBF POSITION: SUPPORT

DATE: March 4, 2020

TO: Environment and Transportation Committee

FROM: Doug Myers, Senior Scientist

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) SUPPORTS HB 1425. This legislation commits Maryland to net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045 while including appropriate estimates of methane-caused warming potential, acknowledging the need for climate justice and climate jobs, and setting for substantial statewide tree cover goals.

HB 1425 is a comprehensive approach to improving the State's existing Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act. It acknowledges the most recent and alarming science about the need to accelerate greenhouse gas reductions to prevent catastrophic environmental consequences. It also acknowledges that disadvantaged communities and people who currently work in fossil fuel industries will be disproportionately affected by some of the necessary adaptations and transitions to climate change.

Most importantly, CBF applauds the acknowledgement of the role of trees as a natural filter, not just for carbon sequestration, but also the myriad benefits trees provide to protecting and improving water quality as well as biodiversity. The commitment to add one million trees per year is probably the most cost-effective action that can be taken to address both climate change and water quality.

For these reasons, CBF urges a FAVORABLE report on HB 1425. If you have any questions, contact Doug Myers, Maryland Senior Scientist at 443.482.2168 or dmyers@cbf.org.

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The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is a non-profit environmental education and advocacy organization dedicated to the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay. With over 300,000 members and e-subscribers, including over 107,000 in Maryland alone, CBF works to educate the public and to protect the interest of the Chesapeake and its resources.