



Sustainability is the bottom line.

BICEP Network Members:

Adobe
Akamai Technologies
Annie's Inc
Aspen Skiing Company
Autodesk
Aveda
Ben & Jerry's
Burton Snowboards
Clif Bar & Company
CommonSpirit
Danone North America
Dignity Health
eBay Inc.
Eileen Fisher
Etsy
Fetzer Vineyards
Gap Inc.
General Mills, Inc.
Hackensack Meridian Health
Happy Family Brands
IKEA
Impossible Foods
Indigo Agriculture
JLL
Kaiser Permanente
KB Home
The Kellogg Company
L'Oreal USA
L Brands
Levi Strauss & Co.
LinkedIn
Lyft
Mars Incorporated
Microsoft Inc.
Nature's Path Foods
Nestle
New Belgium Brewing
Nike, Inc.
The North Face
Outdoor Industry Association
Owens Corning
Patagonia, Inc.
Portland Trail Blazers
REI
Salesforce
Schneider Electric
Seventh Generation
SFO
Sierra Nevada Brewing
Squaw Valley
Starbucks
Stonyfield Farm
Symantec Corporation
Timberland
Unilever
Vail Resorts
VF Corporation
Vulcan, Inc.
Worthen Industries

Delegate Kumar Barve, Chairman
Committee: Environment & Transportation
Testimony on HB 1526- Transportation Carbon Reduction Fund – Establishment (Transportation Carbon Fund Act)
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: March 5, 2020

Dear Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

Ceres is a national sustainability nonprofit organization working with the most influential investors and companies to build leadership and drive solutions throughout the economy. The Ceres BICEP Network (Business for Innovative Climate and Energy Policy) comprises 58 major companies with operations across the U.S. that support strong climate, clean energy and clean transportation policies at the state and federal levels. The BICEP Network supports the efforts underway to reduce transportation-sector carbon emissions via the Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) and commends Maryland lawmakers for taking a leadership role in supporting TCI's implementation.

The Transportation Carbon Fund Act provides an important opportunity to ensure that proceeds derived from Maryland's participation in TCI are directed toward projects and programs that will maximize TCI's efficacy—particularly in regards to emissions reductions and modernization of the transportation system. The BICEP Network strongly supports the establishment of a specific Fund that is protected for use of TCI-related expenditures only. We also support the development of a transparent process (or processes) to gather stakeholder feedback into the development of recommendations as to the use of proceeds in the Fund. Specifically, we encourage proceeds to be prioritized toward projects and programs that maximize carbon reductions from the transportation sector, encourage the smart build-out of charging infrastructure, and maximize benefits for communities disproportionately impacted by harmful emissions and those lacking access to adequate transit options.

The Transportation and Climate Initiative provides a once-in-a-generation opportunity to simultaneously modernize and decarbonize the region's transportation system—a sentiment shared by businesses and institutions across the region such as Etsy, IKEA, and Schneider Electric.¹ Across the globe, businesses are committing to electrify their vehicle fleets, help their employees get to work in an efficient manner, and decarbonize their operational footprint. Initiatives such as TCI and the Transportation Carbon Fund Act provide an important framework for successfully transition to an efficient, low-carbon transportation system of the future.

Sincerely,

Anne Kelly

Vice President, Government Relations, Ceres — on behalf of the Ceres BICEP Network

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¹ More than 90 businesses and institutions signed a letter supporting TCI in February. To learn more: <http://bit.ly/2wpS6tR>.