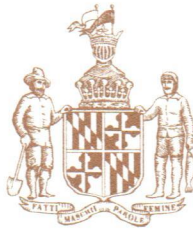


ROBERT G. CASSILLY
Legislative District 34
Harford County

Judicial Proceedings Committee

Joint Committee on Administrative,
Executive, and Legislative Review

Joint Committee on Federal Relations



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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February 25, 2020

RE: Senate Bill 578 – Electricity – Considerations for Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity and Overhead Transmission Lines

Dear Committee Members:

I request your support for SB 578. This bill will require the Public Service Commission (PSC) consider, as part of an application for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN), whether an applicant's design prioritizes the use of existing infrastructure or upgrading existing infrastructure. It also prohibits construction of an overhead transmission line on or within one mile of a property encumbered by a conservation easement unless there is an exceptional showing of good cause or to provide new electric services to an area with no existing service.

I will also introduce at the hearing a proposed amendment under which the Bill would also prohibit construction of a new transmission line for purpose of market efficiency or reliability if that line would cross a property that is subject to an existing conservation easement, unless that line is for service to an unserved area. It would also require the PSC to direct all transmission project applicants to design market efficiency and reliability projects using existing infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Bob Cassilly", written over the word "Sincerely,".

Senator Bob Cassilly