

February 2, 2021

Delegate Dereck E. Davis
Chair, Economic Matters Committee
House Office Building, Room 231
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Delegate Davis:

I am writing to request your favorable support for HB 0419 “Economic Development - Advanced Clean Energy and Clean Energy Innovation Investments and Initiatives.”

I have spent 9 years of my career working in the wind energy industry, previously with GE Wind in Atlanta and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Colorado. Finding renewable energy career opportunities in Maryland that are outside the government and university system are challenging.

In 2020, I participated in a Maryland Clean Energy Center program called the Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator. This unique program accelerates the commercialization of new technologies created in Maryland-based universities and Federal Labs with the goal of creating new Maryland-based technology and manufacturing businesses that will have a positive impact on Maryland’s climate goals.

After several years away from professional work, I returned as an Executive in Residence with a small wind technology start-up supported by the Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator (MEIA). MEIA performed the challenging work of pairing a University of Maryland professor with novel ideas for a small wind turbine design with an individual like me that could provide industry expertise to narrow focus and assess the commercial potential of his idea.

This legislation provides baseline funding for the Maryland Clean Energy Center so that the Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator can continue to accelerate Maryland-based technology and manufacturing businesses.

Your consideration and favorable support of HB 0419 will be much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jessica Lin-Powers
Self-employed, former Energy Executive in Residence with Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator
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