

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.”**

My name is Erik Desrosiers and I’m a consultant in the renewable energy industry with over a decade of experience in government, utilities, and building startups.

In 2020, I participated in a Maryland Clean Energy Center program called the Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator (MEIA). 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.

The innovation ecosystem in Maryland and the surrounding region is bursting at the seams and resources to support technical founders with their ventures are relatively limited. I’ve witnessed first-hand how MEIA supports these emerging businesses to hone their go-to-market strategies, find their first customers, raise private funding, and attract the right employees.

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,



Erik Desrosiers  
Founder  
Merkaba Group  
4210 13<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Washington DC 20017  
[erik@merkaba.group](mailto:erik@merkaba.group) | 215.490.4354