



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 am the president and owner of Tenley Consulting, a firm specializing in clean energy and technology innovation. My clients include small startups, large energy companies, NGOs, and multilateral development banks; in various ways I see and interact with multiple parts of the innovation ecosystem.

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.

I had the privilege of working with two separate startups through MEIA, one whose focus is to improve the efficiency and economics of tidal power and another whose focus is to improve the efficiency and economics of small, distributed windpower. Both areas are underdeveloped and will be important facets of our transition to a clean energy economy.

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,

Michael M. Leifman  
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