

Dear Members of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee:

Thank you, Senator West, for your leadership and efforts in ensuring Maryland has the greenest and most cost-efficient infrastructure as we continue to build back better. I along with my colleagues at Madison Energy Investments and the solar industry in Maryland voice my strong support of Senate Bill 330.

Senate Bill 330 will continue to build upon Maryland's commitment and track record of success in advancing economical clean energy development. Furthermore, SB 330 will make Maryland a more attractive place for firms in the industry to invest, deploy capital and create more jobs. By pushing public entities to design and adopt building practices to maximize solar output, this bill will lower costs to build renewable energy projects around the state. Additionally, this bill will allow industry to achieve economies of scale quicker and will significantly grow the Maryland renewables market.

Finally, with cheaper build costs and economies of scale, this bill will benefit public entities looking to procure power from renewable resources. As industry can lower cost for building such systems, this will allow us to offer clients with cheaper power rates and price certainty. Furthermore, with a larger market, public entities will likely find more actors in the marketplace offering services to receive bids from.

Thanks again for this opportunity to voice our support for this bill and I hope this committee advances this crucial legislation.

Sincerely,

Gerard K. Neely