

February 12, 2021

Senator Delores G. Kelley
Chair, Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Kelley:

I am writing to request your favorable support for SB 0460 “Economic Development – Advanced Clean Energy and Clean Energy Innovation Investments and Initiatives.”

I am currently the Principal at genseed advisors (www.genseed.co), a consulting firm that focuses on advising start-ups in the advanced clean energy space. I am a graduate of the University of Maryland, College Park that has been involved in the clean energy space in this region for over a decade. Maryland has a history of innovation in the clean energy industry, at one point home to the largest solar panel manufacturer in the world. Maryland also has a history of exporting the innovation as other states have stepped in to support both early-stage innovation and later stage deployment of the technologies.

In 2020, I supported the Maryland Clean Energy Center program called the Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator, acting as the Commercialization Manager. 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.

This bill is important to me because I support the development of the advanced energy economy in Maryland. The Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator is playing a key role in fusing the energy innovation ecosystem into a point of incredible pride for the state of Maryland. I believe that the state is making a smart investment in the Maryland Clean Energy Center to encourage the successful adoption of clean energy generation, energy efficiency measures and innovative emerging energy technologies. It is equally important to expand the Maryland Clean Energy Center’s role in innovation to grow Maryland’s budding energy innovation ecosystem into the economic powerhouse that it can become.

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 SB 0460 will be much appreciated.

Sincerely,



Ben Margolis
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