



Secular Maryland

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SUPPORT - HB 1366

Zero-Emission Energy Resources and Carbon Capture, Use, and Sequestration –
Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard and Study

Dear Chair Wilson, Vice-Chair Crosby, and Members of the Economic Matters
Committee,

This bill incentivizes carbon dioxide capture and sequestering that results in net zero
emissions.

NOAA developed the Annual Greenhouse Gas Index ("AGGI" for short). Updated yearly,
the AGGI compares the combined warming influence of the long-lived greenhouse
gases—atmospheric gases that absorb and radiate heat—to their influence in 1990.
They chose 1990 because that is the year that countries who signed the U.N. Kyoto
Protocol agreed to use as a benchmark for their efforts to reduce emissions. By the end
of 2020, the warming influence of human-produced greenhouse gases had risen 47
percent above the 1990 baseline. The AGGI has continued to rise steadily since at least
1980. According to the EPA, 35% of CO₂ is created by the transportation sector, 31% by
the electricity, 16% by industry and 11% by residential and commercial. For methane it is
30% natural gas and petroleum, 27% enteric fermentation, 17% landfills. For nitrous
oxide it is 75% agricultural soil management. For fluorinated gases it is 92% substitution
of ozone depleting substances.

The urgency of the climate crisis we are facing should not be understated. It is an
existential threat that needs to be addressed now if passed it would help put us on
track to reversing decades of emitting green house gases that have contributed
significantly to the decline of our common environment. We encourage this committee
and our General Assembly to step up to our generation's challenge of creating a cleaner
Maryland that is healthier for everyone.

Respectfully,
Mathew Goldstein
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