



**HoCoClimateAction.org**  
Howard County, Maryland

**Testimony on HB31  
Maryland Energy Administration – Resiliency Hub Grant Program and Fund**

**Hearing Date: February 3, 2022**

**Bill Sponsor: Delegate Lorig Charkoudian**

**Committee: House Economics Matters Committee**

**Submitting: Ruth White for Howard County Climate Action**

**Position: Favorable**

[HoCo Climate Action](#) -- a [350.org](#) local chapter and a grassroots organization representing more than 1,450 subscribers, and a member of the Howard County Climate Collaboration – supports HB31, Maryland Energy Administration – Resiliency Hub Grant Program and Fund .

This bill expands “Resilience Hub” funding, and targets microgrid development in low/moderate-income neighborhoods. It will expand backup power for vulnerable communities. Because of the climate crisis, there are extreme weather events that put pressure on the current grid. As a result, we need this kind of enhanced emergency preparedness.

There are examples of the effectiveness of microgrid systems in Maryland and elsewhere. We need to expand these systems for the reasons above. and we need to prepare Maryland to accept more federal funds for these efforts.

HoCoClimateAction encourages a FAVORABLE report for this important legislation.

HoCo Climate Action

[HoCoClimateAction@gmail.com](mailto:HoCoClimateAction@gmail.com)

Submitted by Ruth White, Steering and Advocacy Committee, Columbia MD

[www.HoCoClimateAction.org](http://www.HoCoClimateAction.org)