



TESTIMONY TO THE ECONOMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE

HB 708: Comprehensive Climate Solutions

POSITION: Support

By: Nancy Soreng - LWVMD President

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The League of Women Voters of Maryland (LWVMD) supports **House Bill 708**, which establishes greenhouse gas emission reductions and climate justice as priorities for the state of Maryland.

The catastrophic dangers presented by excess greenhouse gas emissions have long been established and documented. Yet, for more than half a century, the conversation has remained largely the same, making relatively little progress toward true resolution. Since the 1970s, citizens across the country have been calling for comprehensive climate action, but as a nation we still face many of the same challenges with increasing severity. The suffering that has been inflicted on the planet and, in turn, on its citizens does not have to continue. There are myriad proven scientific solutions and approaches to combating climate change, yet legislatures on the national, state, and local levels have continuously failed to take the steps necessary for implementing those approaches. **House Bill 708** is a crucial step in the right direction.

Comprehensive legislation like **House Bill 708** is long past due, and it is of utmost importance that we work to protect both the current and future integrity of our environment, while taking a closer look at the environmental inequities that have manifested as a result of past actions and inactions.

The League of Women Voters of Maryland and its 1,500+ members strongly urge a favorable report by this committee on **House Bill 708**.