

March 8th, 2022 HEARING DATE: 3/10/2022

BILL & TITLE: HB0171 Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act

POSITION: SUPPORT

COMMITTEES: Economic Matters & Environment and Transportation

SPONSOR: Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo

The Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act addresses head on the challenge of equitably reducing greenhouse gas emissions without burdening those who are the least responsible for these emissions and those who are the least able to afford the cost of reducing those emissions.

Through fossil fuel fees, the act would establish revenue for two separate funds for green infrastructure, and household and employer benefits.

Infrastructure Fund

50% of the total revenue will go to the Climate Crisis Infrastructure Fund to invest in initiatives that improve the health and welfare of the citizens of the State.

At least 50% of this Infrastructure account shall be invested in projects that are directly located within and provide meaningful benefits to environmental justice communities.

Up to 5% of the Infrastructure account shall provide technical assistance, capacity, and planning tools to county and municipal governments to develop qualified local climate plans and investment proposals.

Up to 50 % of the Infrastructure account shall be disbursed to qualified county and municipal governments for projects to mitigate GHG's and build resilience.

Benefits Fund

50% of the total revenue will go to the Climate Crisis Benefits Fund directed to low- and moderate-income households and energy-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) businesses to protect them from financial harm.

The bill is equitable and effective. We urge your support

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