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**

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Ren Englum and I live in Lutherville-Timonium, Legislative District 42B. As a mom to two elementary aged kids and a climate activist I am writing to ask for your support for HB0171. While this bill would be an important step forward in reaching our long-term climate goals and carbon emission reduction obligations, it would also provide immediate benefit to the health and well-being of our community - especially our kids. We know that pollution exposure can be directly linked to multiple health risks such as asthma, which is [especially prevalent in Baltimore City](#). These hazards harm the bodies of our children and prevent them from achieving their potential by negatively impacting their [attendance](#) and [performance](#) in school.

These past two years have added unprecedented challenges in learning as we've all adjusted to life with COVID. Virtual school, unpredictable class schedules, social distancing protocols and masking have taken their toll on the educational experience for this generation. We need to take advantage of every opportunity we have to get kids back on track. I can think of nothing more important than this bill which offers protection for their future, while improving their present. It could literally be a breath of fresh air - something our kids desperately need and deserve right now.

For these reasons and more, I urge a FAVORABLE REPORT on SB0171. Respectfully submitted,

Ren Englum
Group Leader for Baltimore Chapter of Citizens' Climate Lobby
 443-812-8930

Cc: Members of the Economic Matters Committee & Environment and Transportation