

Electrical Workers

Insulators

Boilermakers

United Association

Plumbers & Gas Fitters

Sprinkler Fitters

Steam Fitters

Roofers

Cement Masons

Teamsters

Laborers

Bricklayers

Ironworkers

Sheet Metal Workers

Elevator Constructors

Painters

Operating Engineers

Carpenters

Maryland Senate Education Health & Environmental Affairs Committee

Chair: Paul G. Pinsky

Vice Chair: Cheryl Kagan

Senate Bill 528 Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022

Position: **OPPOSE**

The Baltimore DC Metro Building Trades Council Opposes Senate bill 528 for the following reasons. There are no labor standards required under the Just Transitioning and Retraining language in the bill. As our tax dollars are being spent the application of these standards are imperative to protection of the living standards and empowerment of Maryland's working families. These standards include paying the area prevailing wage standard for each trade, including the wages and fringe benefits per trade, and be subject to all state reporting and compliance requirements. Participation in an apprenticeship program registered with the State of Maryland for each trade employed on the project. Contractors that have been compliant with federal and state wage and hour laws in the previous three years. The establishment and execution of a plan for outreach, recruitment, and retention of Maryland residents to perform work on the project—including residents who are returning citizens, women, minority individuals, and veterans—with an aspirational goal of 25 percent of total work hours performed by Maryland residents, including individuals in one or more of the groups identified. The solar and wind energy industry does not provide, currently, family sustaining wages and benefits comparable to employment in the nuclear, natural gas, fuel oil or coal industry. Our members are certified and licensed skilled crafts persons that install these systems safely and economically. Maryland's renewable energy in the form of hydroelectric, solar, wind and biomass only provides 11% of Maryland's energy use, 75% of which is imported. Nuclear energy and Natural gas provide 79% with 41% and 38% respectively and coal accounts for 9%. Solar and wind have not reached a capacity to replace this reliable on demand energy. As a less carbon (not carbon less) future is inevitable the Baltimore DC Building Trades leads the State in green energy construction training though our apprenticeship and journey person programs. Net zero school construction grants should be applied through the Inter Agency Commission as eligible costs and comply with prevailing wage threshold amounts for school construction.

We ask the committee for an unfavorable vote. Thank you.

Respectfully, Jeffry Guido -Baltimore-DC Metro Building Trades Council

