

**Committee: House Health and Government Operations**

**Legislation: HB 0363:Authorizing the Attorney General to investigate, commence, and prosecute or defend any suit or action that holds accountable a publicly traded entity with a market capitalization greater than \$1,000,000,000 or its subsidiaries for tortious or otherwise unlawful conduct that has contributed to climate change; and authorizing the Attorney General to hire outside counsel on a contingency fee basis to assist with an action under the Act if the Attorney General makes a determination that it is in the best interests of the State. Committees.**

**Organization: Environmental Justice Ministry Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church**

**Position: Favorable**

**Hearing: February 15, 2022**

Dear Committee Members,

The Environmental Justice Ministry strongly supports this bill to authorize the Attorney General to hold accountable publicly traded companies worth a billion dollars or more and their subsidiaries who have unlawfully contributed to climate change. The EJM as a faith organization holds that every person has the right to a healthful, sustainable environment as part of their belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every person. This bill will enable the state of Maryland to penalize those often overlooked miscreants working against a sustainable and clean environment.

Please vote in favor of this HB 0363.

Nanci Wilkinson

Environmental Justice Ministry

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church