



Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman  
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Senator William Smith, Chairman  
and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Maryland Senate  
Annapolis, Maryland

RE: **SB 0783** Constitutional Amendment Environmental Rights -- **OPPOSE**

Dear Chairman Smith and Committee Members,

The Maryland Federation of Republican Women has serious concerns about the impact of both Maryland's current "climate change" law and the broad addition of rights proposed for the Declaration of Rights to the Maryland Constitution in SB 0783. It declares that "every person has the fundamental and inalienable right to a healthful and sustainable environment." But it doesn't define sustainable. Such a broad statement could be used to restrict the rights of citizens to the use of their land, the type of vehicle they drive, crops they can grow, the type of house that they can own and more.

While reducing air and water pollution is an extremely important goal, we must also ensure the safety of our people and communities. Scare tactics and those screaming "the world will end in 12 years" too often cause more harm than good.

The environmental mandates and energy systems we put in place must be reliable and affordable. The only logical energy plan is a plan that includes all energy sources. We cannot forget recent lessons in energy planning when windmills and solar panels became inoperable in Texas due to ice storms. What would have happened had all the vehicles trapped for 16-hours on I-95 in Virginia this winter been electric?

Marylanders don't need mandates, more taxes, more bureaucracy, or more red tape. Instead of passing even more restrictive climate change legislation that pushes Maryland further into the "all-electric" single-source energy path, please pause and include low-pollution natural gas, propane and nuclear energy in Maryland's energy portfolio.

Maryland needs multiple sources of reliable energy and the implementation schedule needs more time, not less.

Please vote an **UNFAVORABLE** report for **SB 0783**.

Sincerely,  
Ella Ennis  
Legislative Chairman