

SUPPORT - HB0793 - Offshore Wind Energy - State Goals and Procurement (Promoting Offshore Wind Energy Resources Act)



March 2, 2023

Dear Chair Delegate Wilson, Vice Chair Delegate Crosby and Members of the Committee,

Quaker Voice of Maryland is writing in SUPPORT of **HB0793 - Offshore Wind Energy - State Goals and Procurement [Promoting Offshore Wind Energy Resources (POWER) Act]**

Quaker Voice of Maryland represents Quaker Meetings throughout the State of Maryland. Our faith as Quakers is entwined with our commitment to stewardship and respect for the earth and the pressing need for the expansion of clean, renewable energy resources in Maryland.

The POWER Act is supported by a unique coalition of labor unions, consumer rights advocates, justice groups, climate focused non-profits, and energy companies. Additionally, it will create a skilled clean energy workforce, protect ratepayers and reduce pollution. The goals are lofty and attainable:

- Strengthen labor standards for offshore wind manufacturing, installation, and maintenance;
- Produce 8.5 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2031;
- Facilitate the construction of a shared transmission infrastructure to reduce the cost and environmental impact of future offshore wind projects;
- Procure approximately one additional gigawatt of offshore wind power in existing lease areas while protecting ratepayers

We encourage a FAVORABLE report for this essential legislation in order to reach the Governor's target goal of 100 percent clean energy by 2025 and to create a healthier and more equitable future for all Marylanders.

Sincerely,

Dona Sorce

Working Group Member, on behalf of Quaker Voice of Maryland

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