



TESTIMONY FOR HB0718
Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources - Alterations (Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2023)

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Stewart

Committee: Economic Matters

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

The undersigned organizations express their strong support for **HB0718 – Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources - Alterations (Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2023)** and thank the sponsor, Delegate Stewart, for introducing such an important piece of legislation.

We are in a climate crisis, and supporting and subsidizing industries that produce clean, renewable energy is of paramount importance. Maryland is doing that. However, Maryland also provides tens of millions of dollars in subsidies to businesses that produce dirty energy that harms our residents and our environment and makes it harder to achieve our greenhouse gas reduction targets. It's called throwing good money after bad. Not only is it wasteful to subsidize businesses that continue to pollute, it takes away funds that we could be using to invest more heavily in clean energy. Maryland could become a leader in solar and wind and drive a whole new job market for the state. But we are throwing money away and not using it wisely.

This bill will eliminate three types of dirty energy from Maryland's RPS: trash incineration, woody biomass, and factory farm methane gas. All three of these pollute the environment, harm nearby communities' health, and contribute to climate change. Subsidizing them takes money away from the real renewable energy that we need, and it also tilts waste markets toward the worst methods of managing our waste. We should be subsidizing businesses that do not pollute the environment, like wind and solar power, and let the waste sector work on managing waste.

Let's be smart about where we invest and who we subsidize. We strongly support this bill and we recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in Committee.

Endorsing Organizations

350 Baltimore	HoCo Climate Action	Potomac Conservancy
350 Montgomery County	Howard County Indivisible	Sustainability Advisory
Adat Shalom Climate Action	Howard County Sierra Club	Committee
Assateague Coastal Trust	Interfaith Power and Light, DC,	Sierra Club, Maryland
Audubon Naturalist Society	MD, NoVa	Chapter
Casa de Maryland	Labor Network for	Strong Future Maryland
Cedar Lane Unitarian	Sustainability	Sunrise Baltimore
Universalist Church	Laurel Resist	Takoma Park Mobilization
CHEER	Maryland Environmental	Environment Committee
Chesapeake Bay Foundation	Health Network	Talbot Rising
Chesapeake Climate	Maryland League of	The Climate Mobilization
Action Network Action Fund	Conservation Voters	Montgomery County
Chesapeake Physicians for	Maryland Legislative	The Nature Conservancy
Social Responsibility	Coalition	Unitarian Universalist
Chispa MD	Maryland NAACP	Legislative Ministry
Clean Air Prince Georges	State Conference,	Wicomico NAACP
Clean Air Prince Georges	Environmental Justice	WISE
Clean Water Action	Committee	
Climate Law & Policy Project	Maryland Poor People's	
Climate Parents of Prince	Campaign	
Georges	MCPS Clean Energy	
Climate Reality Montgomery	Campaign	
County	MD Campaign for	
Climate Solutions	Environmental Human	
Climate Stewards of	Rights	
Greater Annapolis	Mid-Atlantic	
Climate XChange - Maryland	Ministry of Maryland	
Coalition For Smarter Growth	MoCo DCC	
Columbia Association Climate	Montgomery Countryside	
Change	Alliance	
Concerned Citizens Against	Montgomery County Faith	
Industrial CAFOs	Alliance	
Do The Most Good	Mountain Maryland	
Montgomery County	Movement	
Echotopia	National Parks Conservation	
Elders Climate Action	Association	
Environmental Justice Ministry	Nuclear Information &	
Frack Free Frostburg	Resource Service	
Glen Echo Heights Mobilization		
Greenbelt Climate		
Action Network		

