



HB910

Energy Storage - Targets and Maryland Energy Storage Program – Establishment Hearing March 2, 2023 Position: FAVORABLE

Dear Delegate Wilson and members of the committee, my name is Elizabeth Fixsen, and I represent the 700+ members of Indivisible Howard County. Indivisible Howard County is an active member of the Maryland Legislative Coalition (with 30,000+ members). We are providing written testimony today in **support of HB910**, which will require the Public Utilities Commission to promote further development and use of energy storage systems in Maryland. This bill will build on the Maryland Energy Storage Systems program initiated in 2022. We thank those delegates who have sponsored this bill.

Energy storage systems provide several benefits to the electric grid and utility customers: They enable the transition to a clean grid with diversified renewable resources; create system efficiencies that can reduce costs and save money for utilities and ratepayers; bolster grid reliability and resilience; improve system capabilities to withstand shocks and stressors; and promote economic development and job creation in Maryland communities.

As our planet is facing catastrophic effects from climate change, it is imperative that state and local governments, as well as individuals, take every possible measure to transition away from fossil fuels to a renewable energy system, and a robust energy storage system helps further that goal. Maryland is leading the way with many state and local government initiatives to promote renewable energy, and HB910 is an important one.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

We respectfully urge a favorable report.

Elizabeth Fixsen
Savage, MD