



**Testimony Before the Senate Education, Environment and Energy Committee  
In Support of Senate Bill 843 – Climate and Health Superfund Act  
By Vincent DeMarco, Maryland Citizens’ Health Initiative**

**March 6, 2023**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Senate Education, Environment and Energy Committee, on behalf of the Maryland Citizens’ Health Initiative, I am here to support, SB 843, the Climate and Health Superfund Act. We commend Senator Ben Kramer for sponsoring this legislation. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act and to the leadership of the Maryland General Assembly, our state has made great strides in expanding health care coverage, reducing the percentage of our people without health insurance from 13% to 6% in the last few years. But, as Governor Wes Moore said in his Inaugural address, we must do all we can to expand coverage to the hundreds of thousands of our fellow Marylanders still without health care coverage. We can only accomplish this with a new revenue source which would fund our goal of quality, affordable health care for all Marylanders. Because SB 843 allocates 20 percent of the proceeds from this program to expanding health care coverage, it would provide the resources we need to cover all Marylanders. For that reason, we strongly urge you to pass this life saving measure. I am submitting this testimony on behalf of our individual organization, Maryland Citizens’ Health Initiative, Inc., because we have not reviewed this legislation with our entire Maryland Health Care For All! Coalition.