

SUPPORT - SB0590 - Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources - Alterations (Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2023)



February 27, 2023

Dear Chair Senator Feldman, Vice Chair Senator Kagan and Members of the Committee,

Quaker Voice of Maryland is writing in **SUPPORT** of **SB0590 - Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources - Alterations (Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2023)**.

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 right of all to breath clean air regardless of where they live or work.

According to a recent report prepared by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER), **“Since 2008, Maryland’s renewable energy credits and millions of ratepayer dollars have gone to polluting, carbon-intensive fuel sources, threatening public health and undermining climate goals. In 2020, about [25 percent of Maryland’s “clean” energy came from dirty sources.](https://bit.ly/3mcwxGM)”** (Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility, Feb. 2022, <https://bit.ly/3mcwxGM>)

The impact of incinerators and the use of wood and other dirty or toxic materials for energy generation has proven to have a substantial impact on low income communities where households have fewer choices regarding where to live and work. SB0590 calls for revision of the state’s clean energy standard with removal of these types of fuel sources.

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 in addition to improving the quality of life for citizens living near these pollution generating activities.

Sincerely,

Dona Sorce

Working Group Member, on behalf of Quaker Voice of Maryland

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