

Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Re: SB 590 / FAVORABLE

Dear Chair Feldman and members of the Committee:

I'm writing to ask for your support of the Reclaim Renewable Energy Act (HB718/SB590) to eliminate three pollution producers from Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS): trash incineration, factory farm methane, and woody biomass.

I believe most citizens in Maryland would be surprised and disappointed to learn that Maryland's renewable energy dollars are being spent in support of dirty energy sources, rather than going completely toward REAL renewable energy.

In Frederick, many of our residents began their opposition to incineration being included in Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard as a result of all that we learned about the negative financial and environmental consequences of trash incineration when a project was proposed to be built here a decade ago.

But besides incineration, there is no question that it is impossible to justify the inclusion of factory farm methane gas and woody biomass in this program that is meant to incentivize renewable energy.

Again, please support HB718 and SB590 to assure that Maryland is subsidizing only REAL clean energy solutions.

Many thanks for your consideration,

Patrice Gallagher

Co-founder, Frederick Zero Waste Alliance

102 W Church Street

Frederick MD 21701