



## TESTIMONY FOR HB1214

### Public Health - Youth Camps, Development Organizations, and Programs - Criminal History Records Checks

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Stein

**Committee:** Economic Matters

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB1214 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

What is Green Electricity, or Environmentally Friendly Electricity? Maryland law does not contain any definition of what is considered green or environmentally friendly. Because of that, energy suppliers have used these terms to represent their products. This bill establishes a much-needed “truth in advertising” standard for those Maryland electricity suppliers who wish to represent that their electricity is “green.” Under this legislation, suppliers will be eligible to represent their products are “green” if the Renewable Energy Credits (“RECs”) they purchase were created from clean energy sources – solar, wind, geothermal, ocean energy, and/or a small hydroelectric power plant (less than 30 megawatts). These sources further must be among those that serve Maryland, by being located within the regional electricity grid to which our State belongs (the PJM region) or, if located outside PJM, they nonetheless deliver electricity into our region. Lastly, the bill requires these suppliers to include a particular disclosure statement in their marketing materials.

If a supplier chooses to market their products as “green”, understanding that their potential customers believe that to mean “coming from clean energy sources”, then it makes perfect sense to ensure that those suppliers can substantiate their claims.

We strongly support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.