

# SB536; HB680 Nuclear Power Plants Radiation and Emergency Preparedness and Protection Act UNFAVORABLE

- Nuclear power is hazardous, and a sound Radiation and Emergency Preparedness program is important. New nuclear imposes different risks.
- Maryland needs a sound plan. - A Radiological/Nuclear Incident Emergency Response Plan identifies the actions to be taken by the state and local governments in preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a radiological/nuclear emergency. Lessons from TMI, Chernobyl and Fukushima suggest that decision structures and communications are important features.
- The bill is narrowly focused on additional funding for Maryland's existing radiation response program.
  - Why is this funding needed? What is wrong with the existing plan?
  - The bill has a definition of radiation that correctly includes ionization radiation (breaks chemical bonds) but strangely includes electromagnetic radiation (cell phones, power lines) and sonic radiation (ultrasonic toothbrushes).
- Recommendations
  - Vote this bill to be UNFAVORABLE
  - Task the Nuclear Task Force to broadly review Maryland's Nuclear Power Plant Emergency Preparedness Plans and make recommendations.

