



Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1193
Environment – Coal Combustion By–Products
House - Economic Matters
Jose Coronado-Flores , On Behalf of CASA

March 7th, 2024

Dear Honorable Chair Wilson and Members of the Committee,

CASA is pleased to offer **favorable testimony in support of HB1193 Environment – Coal Combustion By–Products**. CASA is the largest immigrant services and advocacy organization in Maryland, and in the Mid-Atlantic region, with a membership of over 120,000 Black and Latino immigrants and working families in Maryland.

In particular, CASA is invested in seeing this bill pass, because our members are residents in communities like Brandywine and Westport. We also want to stand alongside communities that have been historic dumping grounds for the waste from dirty energy production.

In the Westport area in Baltimore, the community already knows the air is polluted from nearby industry, waste facilities, and major roads. However, with two coal ash waste sites also in close proximity, the effects of pollution may also be impacting the land and water. HB1193 sets to obtain data on water quality near these sites to quantify harm and the extent of local contamination. This legislation also prioritizes the right ways to deal with this waste and sets channels for community engagement and input in the clean up process.

We need data and plans to deal with this waste, and HB1193 sets out to accomplish this, so that we can be on the real path towards remediation and justice for these communities.. For these reasons, CASA urges a favorable report.

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