

HB0864_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

2/29//2024

Richard Keith Kaplowitz
Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#0864 – FAVORABLE

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans

TO: Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby and members of the Economic Matters Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#0864, Energy Efficiency and Conservation Plans

“The Maryland’s Climate Pathway report demonstrates how Maryland can meet its ambitious climate goals of 60% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by 2031 relative to 2006 levels, and attain a net-zero economy by 2045, all while realizing health and economic benefits for Marylanders, including improved air quality, new jobs, and household cost savings.

Maryland can do this through the coordinated implementation of current and new policies across each sector of the economy, combined with a strong federal partnership and a broader all-of society approach that integrates actions from cities, counties, local jurisdictions, business and industry leaders, community organizations, and more.”¹

This bill mandates that sources which affect our climate; electric companies, gas companies, housing, must work towards the development of plans for climate change remediation. These plans must address energy efficiency, conservation, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction targets. The bill will reset existing targets to achieve goals and targets more closely as documented in the current climate plan. It will also make the Public Service Commission work as a partner to these businesses and organizations. The PSC will be mandated to encourage and promote the efficient use and conservation of energy to ensure we meet greenhouse gas emissions reduction goals and targets.

If Maryland is to meet the ambitious but vitally necessary climate change remediation this bill lays out that path and methodologies to be implemented.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report and pass HB0864.

1

<https://mde.maryland.gov/programs/air/ClimateChange/Documents/MARYLANDS%20PATHWAY%20REPORT%20AND%202031%20GHG%20PLAN/Maryland%27s%20Climate%20Pathway%20Report.pdf>