

1/24/2024

Stephanie Compton  
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RE: **Favorable Testimony on SB146**, Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources - Alterations (Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2024)

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and the members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee-

As a resident of Baltimore City and a Maryland ratepayer, I am writing to express my strong **support of SB146**, the Reclaim Renewable Energy Act.

Burning trash for energy isn't clean or renewable. So why is Maryland using money intended for *actual* renewable energy to subsidize it?

Since 2008, dirty sources of energy have been receiving renewable energy credits, and in 2022 alone, Maryland spent \$24.7 million subsidizing trash incinerators. These polluters are receiving credits that should have gone to *real* renewable energy sources like that of wind, solar, and geothermal.

In the past hearings of removing trash incineration from the RPS, the conversation is often confused with questions of "where would the trash go?" Removing the subsidies from trash incineration isn't about shutting down incinerators, it's about removing the credits from a polluting source that shouldn't be labeled as renewable.

Furthermore, trash incineration is a dying industry. No new plants are being built so continuing to subsidize them is irrelevant.

Please pass SB146 so that Maryland Ratepayers are funding true sources of renewable energy and not false renewables of trash incineration, landfill gas, anaerobic digestion, biomass, and poultry litter incineration.

Sincerely,  
Stephanie Compton  
Zero Waste Expert