

**Bill:** Public School Construction and Renovation: Solar Canopies for School Parking Lots - Underground Infrastructure

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

CI Renewables is pleased to submit this testimony in support of House Bill 61, which mandates that new construction and major renovation projects of public school buildings incorporate the necessary underground infrastructure to support future solar canopy installations in school parking lots.

As a company dedicated to advancing clean energy solutions, we recognize the critical importance of planning infrastructure with sustainability in mind. Solar canopies not only reduce energy costs for schools but also contributes significantly to Maryland's renewable energy goals. By integrating the necessary underground infrastructure during initial construction or renovation, HB 61 ensures cost-efficiency, eliminates future retrofitting expenses, and accelerates the deployment of solar technologies across the state.

We respectfully urge the Committee to provide a favorable report on HB 61. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Joshua Feldmark Senior Vice President Joshua.feldmark@cirenew.com