

# Testimony For HB1217

Honorable Delegates

I support

- Authorizing the construction, permitting, and operation of natural gas generating facilities in the State until the State meets 50 percent of its energy needs from renewable energy resources; and
- requiring the Maryland Energy Administration to work with the owners and operators of natural gas generating facilities in the State to decrease the production of energy from natural gas after the State meets 50 percent of its energy needs from renewable energy resources.

Reducing the number of power plants that use fossil fuels to generate electricity before alternative energy sources were available, has made us dependent on other states for our energy needs and driven up the prices of the electricity we use.

We do not want to be like California and have brown-outs during the summer because we do not have enough energy and the exporting states cannot spare any extra. Not having a reliable energy source will prevent businesses from coming or even staying in Maryland, which will hurt our tax base and limit jobs as we face terrible budget deficits.

Please enter a favorable report for HB1217.

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February 21, 2025