

HB1037 - SUPPORT Frances Stewart, MD Elders Climate Action Maryland frances.stewart6@gmail.com 301-718-0446

## HB1037, Energy Resource Adequacy and Planning Act

## Meeting of the Economic Matters Committee

February 28, 2025

Dear Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Boyce, and Members of the Economic Matters Committee, on behalf of Elders Climate Action Maryland, I urge a favorable report on HB

Elders Climate Action is a nationwide organization devoted to ensuring that our children, grandchildren, and future generations have a world in which they can thrive. The Maryland Chapter has members across the state.

Each day, we see the climate crisis more clearly. We know that Maryland is at risk for sea level rise, flooding from intense rainfall, heat waves, and other extreme weather events. Maryland can also be a leader in moving us to a safer, cleaner future where we all can thrive. The clean energy transition is an essential part of that future.

It is also essential that the energy we use be reliable and affordable for all Marylanders.

To have a successful transition, we must have better planning. This bill will create an Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) Office at the Public Service Commission. That office will work with the Maryland Energy Administration, the Maryland Department of the Environment, the Maryland Clean Energy Center and other state agencies to develop a 25-year energy forecast.

That forecast will consider load, reliability, affordability, and greenhouse gas emissions and make recommendations to the General Assembly. The forecast and the associated analysis and recommendations will put Maryland in a much better position.

For all of these reasons, we strongly urge a favorable report on HB1037.

Thank you.