



HB1233 - SUPPORT  
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HB1233, Community Solar Energy Generating Systems – Subscription Eligibility

Meeting of the Economic Matters Committee

February 21, 2025

Dear Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and Members of the Committee, on behalf of Elders Climate Action Maryland, I urge a favorable report on HB1233, Community Solar Energy Generating Systems – Subscription Eligibility.

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.

Marylanders are concerned about their increasing electricity bills. These concerns are particularly serious for people with low or moderate incomes, including many elders.

At the same time, more and more people want to switch to solar energy because of its lower cost and its environmental benefits. Many of them are renters or others who cannot install solar panels on their homes. Low and moderate income people are overrepresented in that group.

Community solar provides an excellent option, but in some areas, there are no community solar projects with room for new subscribers. We've noted that problem particularly with our members in the PEPCO service area. But in other parts of the state, projects have plenty of room for new subscribers.

This bill offers an excellent opportunity to alleviate both problems. Making it easier for LMI customers to subscribe to a project outside their service area will reduce their bills and make the benefits of solar available to them wherever they live in Maryland. It will also be beneficial to community solar projects in areas that do not yet have high demand.

For these reasons, we strongly urge a favorable report on HB1233.

Thank you.