



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

February 21, 2025

Committee: House – Environment and Transportation

Bill: HB 1338 - Public Utilities - Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity - Energy Storage Devices

Position: *Favorable*

Reason for Position:

On behalf of the Maryland Municipal League (MML), representing 161 local governments across the state, we respectfully submit this testimony in **support** of House Bill 1338. This bill is an important step toward ensuring that energy storage projects are developed responsibly, with appropriate oversight from both the state and local governments.

As Maryland moves toward a more sustainable and resilient energy future, it is essential that energy storage devices are integrated into the grid in a way that takes into account local concerns and the capacity of municipal infrastructure. HB 1338 ensures that local governments are notified when proposed energy storage devices are located within their jurisdictions. This transparency fosters collaboration between local leaders and the developers of energy storage projects, enabling municipalities to have input on projects that may have significant local impacts. The requirement for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) ensures that energy storage projects undergo a rigorous review process. This process provides an opportunity to assess the suitability of proposed projects and to ensure that they meet both state and local standards. For larger-scale projects, this additional oversight is crucial for balancing the need for clean energy development with local interests, including zoning, land use, and environmental concerns.

The Maryland Municipal League strongly **supports** HB 1338 because it ensures local governments are notified of and involved in the review of proposed energy storage projects within their jurisdictions. It provides a clear and transparent regulatory framework for the development of energy storage devices, which is essential for ensuring responsible and sustainable energy solutions. The requirement for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) offers both state and local governments a structured process for evaluating and approving energy storage devices. It encourages responsible development that takes into account local concerns, promoting collaboration between state and local entities.

The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.



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House Bill 1338 will contribute to Maryland's clean energy future while preserving the vital role of local governments in managing the growth and infrastructure of communities. We respectfully urge the committee to give a ***favorable*** report on HB 1338.

For more information, please contact Tyler Alexis Brice, Manager of Advocacy and Public Affairs, at tylerb@mdmunicipal.org or 254-652-8110.

Thank you for your consideration.

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