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March 11, 2025

**SUPPORT: HB 1079 - Public Service Commission - Study on the Electric Transmission and Distribution System**

Chair Wilson and Members of the Committee:

Maryland LCV supports HB 1079 - Public Service Commission - Study on the Electric Transmission and Distribution System. We thank Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo and Chair Wilson for their leadership and commitment to ensuring grid reliability and security of the electric transmission and distribution system in Maryland.

HB 1079 is a sensible step in the development of transmission infrastructure, particularly as Maryland seeks to increase grid stability. A study evaluating grid-enhancing technologies, advanced conductors, and other technologies such as storage covered in this bill could provide cost-effective, efficient, and flexible alternatives to building new transmission lines. A study evaluating these technologies can ensure Maryland effectively reduces congestion while enhancing system reliability in the safest, most cost-efficient, and environmentally responsible manner.

Studying these new technologies to maximize grid efficiencies is important because they can improve the capacity, efficiency, reliability, and resilience of transmission infrastructure, which could be at a [lower cost](#) and [faster implementation](#) than traditional upgrades. A study on these technologies, such as energy storage and demand response, can effectively direct their deployment, which has the potential to significantly reduce energy consumption and contribute to Maryland's efforts to meet its climate goals by enabling more efficient use of energy resources.

HB 1079 can also help determine whether effective grid-enhancing technologies and advanced conductors have less land use impacts compared to building new transmission lines, meaning less disruption to [communities](#) and the environment.

HB 1079 is an important step in Maryland's energy future. Maryland LCV urges a favorable report on this bill.