



## House Bill 827

*Solar Energy - Distributed Generation Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity, Ground-Mounted Solar, and Small Solar Siting Workgroup*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT  
WITH AMENDMENTS**

To: Economic Matters Committee

Date: March 13, 2025

From: Dominic J. Butchko

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS HB 827 WITH AMENDMENTS**. This bill would establish an expedited approval process for solar energy generating systems between 2MW and 5MW.

For more than a year, county officials and professionals, in partnership with MACo, have worked closely with the administration, advocacy groups, and industry leaders to advance Maryland's renewable energy goals through clear, effective, and balanced policies. Counties remain steadfast in their commitment to solutions that address shared challenges and serve the best interests of our communities.

With the amendments developed by the bill sponsors, MACo, industry stakeholders, and the Administration, HB 827 represents a smart, well-balanced approach to accelerating the deployment of small- and medium-scale solar projects. These amendments ensure that increased efficiency does not come at the expense of community input, environmental protections, or other key considerations.

MACo extends its appreciation to the House and Senate sponsors, as well as stakeholders, for their collaboration in addressing county concerns. Counties remain unwavering in their commitment to being the State's partner in government, working alongside the General Assembly to achieve better outcomes for our shared constituents.

If enacted with amendments, HB 827 is a smart and well-balanced policy that will forward Maryland's energy commitments without sacrificing other goals and considerations. For this reason, MACo urges the Committee to give HB 827 a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS** report.