



Talbot Watermen Association, Inc.

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February 12, 2025

The Honorable C.T. Wilson
Chair, Economic Matters Committee
The Honorable Brian Crosby
Vice Chair, Economic Matters Committee
231 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Wilson and Vice Chair Crosby,

We are writing to express our **support** for **House Bill 1149/Senate Bill 675 - Public Service Commission - Full Costs and Benefits Analysis of Sources of Electricity Generation.**

These bills would require the Public Service Commission (PSC) to conduct an analysis of the full costs and benefits of various energy sources and provide policy recommendations to the legislature by December 1, 2026. Those recommendations would be based on the energy sources that have the lowest costs and greatest benefits to Maryland's ratepayers.

Continually rising energy costs are negatively impacting the seafood industry which is primarily made up of small businesses. We are also experiencing economic hardship as individual rate payers due to residential rate increases and congestion charges. Increasing clean, reliable, and affordable electricity generation in Maryland's portfolio will help to ease these cost burdens and make Maryland's economy more resilient. The analysis required by this legislation will provide a true picture of which sources can achieve that outcome for Maryland's energy future.

It will also provide an assessment of energy sources that disproportionately impact our industry such as offshore wind. Offshore wind projects such as the one proposed in Ocean City impede safe navigation, disrupt habitat, damage fishing gear, and reduce our industry's ability to feed Marylanders. We believe that those consequences far outweigh the benefits. A full costs and benefits analysis will help to determine that.

[Talbot Watermen Association, Inc. is a component fund of the Mid-Shore Community Foundation, a 501\(c\)\(3\) public charity.](#)



Thank you in advance for your consideration and we respectfully request a favorable report for House Bill 1149/Senate Bill 675.

Sincerely,

Herman Jeffrey Harrison
President

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