



TESTIMONY FOR HB1338

Public Utilities - Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity – Energy Storage Devices

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Valderrama

Committee: Economic Matters

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: **FAVORABLE**

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB1338 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

The Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) process was designed to ensure that projects that interact with our grid meet standards that safeguard public welfare. This bill will require a CPCN for any construction of an energy storage device that has a storage capacity of 2 megawatts and sits in front of the meter.

Our members believe that there should not be exceptions to the process simply because there is a need to build ever more storage devices to handle data centers. We must look to long-term effects and ensure that what is being built today does not harm us in the future.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.