

Ella Ennis, Legislative Chairman Maryland Federation of Republican Women PO Box 6040, Annapolis MD 21401 Email: eee437@comcast.net

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chairman and Members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee Senate of Maryland Annapolis, Maryland

RE: **SB0034** – Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity – Overhead Transmission Lines – Conservation Easements – **SUPPORT** 

Dear Chairman Feldman and Committee Members,

The 1,154 members of the Maryland Federation of Republican Women strongly support SB0034.

It is imperative that we protect Maryland Agricultural Preservation Foundation easements, Forest Conservation acreage, other conservation easements, and our parks and natural resource management areas.

Forestlands filter carbon from the atmosphere. Watersheds ensure clean water. Wetlands and stream buffers filter excess nutrients, keeping them out of our waterways. All these provide quality habitat for animals.

These protected lands are Maryland's most effective filtration systems and fighters of climate change.

The Maryland Federation of Republican Women supports SB0034 because it will ensure that protected lands remain protected.

We encourage vote a **FAVORABLE** report for **SB0034**.

Sincerely, Ella Ennis Legislative Chairman Maryland Federation of Republican Women