

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment
Testimony on: SB 883 - Coal Clean Up and Asthma Mitigation Fund
Submitting: Sandra Martinez
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Sandra Martinez. I am a mother of four, and one of my children suffers from respiratory issues. For the past two years, my family and I have lived in Baltimore City's District 46, where we have experienced firsthand the harmful effects of coal dust in our community.

Every day, coal transport brings pollution into our neighborhoods, and we are forced to breathe in the toxic dust that seeps into our homes. My daughter, who has special needs and asthma, struggles even more because of the poor air quality. No parent should have to watch their child suffer simply because of where they live.

Communities like mine have been ignored for far too long when it comes to environmental justice. The Coal Clean-Up and Asthma Mitigation Fund is a necessary step toward addressing this ongoing health crisis. It's time for a real solution that prioritizes the well-being of families over pollution.

I urge you to vote in favor of SB 883 and stand with communities like mine that have experienced decades of environmental neglect. We deserve the right to breathe clean air.

Sincerely

Sandra Martinez