

**Testimony Supporting SB0010**  
**Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee**  
**February 13, 2025**

**Position: SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Feldman and Members of the Committee,

Everyone probably remembers me but just in case you don't. My name is Carlos Sanchez, I'm a resident of Baltimore City and part of a grassroots, community based nonprofit organization, the South Baltimore Community Land trust. I'm writing to express my strong support for SB0010 which I've been in support of since I was 13. I'm turning 20 years old tomorrow and it shows how much this bill matters to me and how long the South Baltimore community has been demanding this legislation. I live in Lakeland which is less than 2 miles away from the WIN waste trash incinerator and my entire life I've seen the health effects this pollution facility has on my community. But I'm not here to talk about that, I'm here because for the past 3 years I've been so frustrated because at the end of the day I'm paying for this facility to continue to harm my health and that's what I'm here to talk about.

I'll start off by saying Baltimore, and Maryland ratepayers at large, have been wasting so much money investing in non renewable "trash" incineration, subsidizing what is clearly not an efficient nor renewable way to get energy. [A new 2023 study in PLOS Climate](#) found that "incinerators emit more greenhouse gas emissions per unit of electricity produced than *any* other power source" - including coal plants. The Land Trust has long been working to move Baltimore to a healthier future, building a path forward where we can receive our energy from truly renewable sources like wind and solar. But, this renewable energy shift has been inhibited by the increasing money going to the BRESKO Waste incinerator and the two other non renewable incineration facilities in Maryland and Virginia. This is not a solid waste bill, nor a zero waste bill, this is a Clean energy bill.

This bill is to stop lying to Maryland ratepayers about where their money is going. It reestablishes what the RPS was intended for, for clean renewable energy. As Maryland ratepayers, we are frustrated by how our money profits these non renewable, climate polluting facilities, further harmful to human health in comparison to Solar, wind, and geothermal. As we continue building our sustainable communities in South Baltimore, we are here today strongly in support of Bill SB0010 because the RPS subsidy is paid by electric utilities, and ultimately comes out of our utility bills. We deserve to know that when we're paying for renewable energy, we're actually helping support the actual clean renewable energy we need to fight climate change and clean our air. Please pass SB0010 as it's what Residents, Groups and Organizations need the state to do! We need yall to help restore the RPS to its original purpose of funding real and clean renewable energy. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Carlos C. Sanchez-Gonzalez  
The South Baltimore Community Land Trust