



Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Josh Kurtz, Secretary
David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

February 27, 2025

BILL NUMBER: Senate Bill 779 – First Reader

SHORT TITLE: Climate Solutions Now Act Affordability Act of 2025

DEPARTMENT’S POSITION: OPPOSE

EXPLANATION OF DEPARTMENT’S POSITION

The Department opposes the proposed legislation as it adds, but does not define, “to the extent economically practicable” to each outstanding provision within the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022, which would provide implementing agencies and companies the discretion to determine what the phrase means when implementing the goals established in the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022, and thus risk the State not meeting said goals.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 (SB528) passed setting greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for Maryland and was enacted under Article II, Section 17(b) of the Maryland Constitution - Chapter 38

BILL EXPLANATION

The bill makes several amendments to the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 that require the development of energy performance standards, and statewide greenhouse gas emission goals, be implemented to the extent economically practicable. The bill also allows county boards to purchase and use school buses that are not zero-emission vehicles if it is not economically practicable. Furthermore, the International Green Construction Code would be implemented to the extent economically practicable.

Contact: Emily Wilson, Director, Legislative and Constituent Services (Acting)
emilyh.wilson@maryland.gov ♦ 410-260-8426 (office) ♦ 443-223-1176 (cell)