

MARYPIRG

Students

Bill Title: SB10 Reclaim Renewable Energy Act

Position: Favorable

To: Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

From: Serenity Blyther, MaryPIRG Students

Date: 2/11/25

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the *Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2025*. My name is Serenity Blyther, and I am a public policy student at the University of Maryland.

This bill is a necessary step toward ensuring Maryland's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS) truly reflects a commitment to sustainability and equity. By redefining eligible sources of renewable energy, the Act prioritizes investments in clean, low-impact sources like wind and solar while phasing out subsidies for energy sources that do not align with our climate and public health goals.

Maryland has made progress in expanding renewable energy, but our current RPS framework still allows credits for sources that contribute to environmental harm, particularly in communities already facing disproportionate pollution burdens. Updating these standards will promote cleaner air, reduce long-term costs for consumers, and encourage innovation in Maryland's green economy.