



Queen
Anne's
County

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

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Centreville, MD 21617

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County Commissioners:

James J. Moran, At Large
Jack N. Wilson, Jr., District 1
J. Patrick McLaughlin, District 2
Philip L. Dumenil, District 3
Christopher M. Corchiarino, District 4

County Administrator: Todd R. Mohn, PE

Executive Assistant to County Commissioners: Stephanie L. Jarrell

County Attorney: Patrick Thompson, Esquire

February 25, 2025

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman
Chairman, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis MD 21401

RE: **SB931 – Renewable Energy Certainty Act (Public Utilities – Generating Stations – Generation and Siting)**
OPPOSITION

Dear Chairman Feldman,

Please consider this letter of **opposition** for Senate Bill 931. This bill establishes a clear path for the preemption of local zoning authority by restricting and prohibiting local zoning laws that regulate the construction of certain solar energy generating station and energy storage devices. Further, this bill creates an exemption from personal and real property taxes for solar energy generating stations.

SB931 completely disregards the good faith collaboration in which Queen Anne's County participated along with state and county leaders, nongovernmental organizations, and solar industry leaders to advance Maryland's renewable energy goals through clear, effective, and balanced policies. The Renewable Energy Certainty Act undermines local taxing authority, local zoning authority, essential community input and protections. This bill does not contemplate essential safety measures affiliated with utility scale battery storage devices.

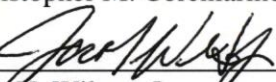
In general, SB931 disregards local land use, comprehensive planning, and economic factors that would otherwise allow counties to partner with the State to achieve renewable energy portfolio goals. This bill is in direct conflict with the Queen Anne's County Comprehensive Plan and long-standing land use and property rights assurances provided by QAC Zoning Code which are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.


Thank you for the opportunity to **oppose** this legislation.


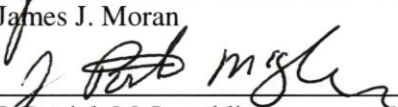
Respectfully,

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


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