



PROGRESSIVE MARYLAND

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2/13/2024

Testimony in Support of SB10 Reclaim Renewable Energy Act

To: Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the committee.

From: Angela Clark, Member of Sunrise Movement and Progressive Maryland

DATE: 2/05/25

POSITION: Favorable

Thank you, members of the committee, for the opportunity to provide personal testimony in support of SB10, Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2025. My name is Angela Clark and I am a member of the Sunrise Movement and supporter of Progressive Maryland's Environmental Justice Task Force. As a resident of Baltimore City, this bill is of extreme importance to myself and members of my community.

As a former resident of the Pigtown neighborhood, the ongoing exploitation of Maryland's residents through surreptitious practices appalls me. I find it deeply concerning that the three incinerators throughout the DMV area are funded by unwitting community members by way of inappropriately usurping Green Energy subsidies. The BRESCO incinerator is the largest emitter of air pollution in the city, exposing thousands of our residents to toxic chemicals such as lead, mercury, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and more. Not only are these greenhouse gases detrimental to our environment, but the toxic byproducts of incinerating trash have proven to cause negative health outcomes within Southern Baltimore's predominantly Black neighborhoods, including cancer and asthma. Maryland ratepayers have already paid over \$100 million into waste incineration since the inception of the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), with a projected \$300 million total by 2030 if these subsidies continue. These funds should be going towards legitimate clean energy infrastructure, rather than a system which pollutes our air and endangers our community. To allow this industrial waste processor to emit these chemicals into our environment is condemnable in the first place, but to silently force those negatively affected by that pollution to fund their own suffering is downright abhorrent.

I stand in solidarity with the members of my community in calling for the removal of this insult to our great city. I call on you, the representatives of our state senate, to right this wrong by passing SB10 and bringing an end to the ratepayer funding of this harmful pollution machine.

Respectfully,

Angela Clark

