



## House Bill 1451

### *Climate Solutions Affordability Act of 2025*

Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Environment and Transportation Committee

Date: March 6, 2025

From: Chip Bertino, Worcester County Commissioner

My name is Worcester County Commissioner Chip Bertino and I'm writing in support of House Bill 1451, which would give counties more flexibility in meeting the state's climate goals.

The Climate Solutions Now Act provided us with laudable climate goals but little information on the costs associated with moving the state to clean energy. As the substantial financial implications of these changes become clear, I'm grateful that our lawmakers have acknowledged the significant expense that comes with reducing greenhouse gas emissions. This bill provides local governments and school systems with more latitude in meeting the state's climate targets. It ensures that compliance with the new standards does not impose an excessive fiscal burden on local governments.

As a local government official, I appreciate this commonsense approach and legislators' support of counties as they partner with the state to move Maryland toward net-zero.

I urge you to provide a favorable report to House Bill 1451. Thank you for your time, your consideration and your service.