



**Bill:** HB 1258- Energy Equality Act of 2025

**Position:** SUPPORT

Dear Chair, Vice-Chair and Members of the Committee:

The Maryland Coalition for Inclusive Energy Solutions, Inc. (MCIES) is a coalition of diverse stakeholders, including representatives from organized labor, manufacturing, energy production, transportation, and public utilities. Together, we are advocating for the inclusivity of all energy types, including natural gas, renewable natural gas, hydrogen, propane, and nuclear power. Please accept this letter in support of HB 1258.

HB 1258 advances Maryland's clean energy goals while also ensuring that residents maintain access to energy choices that best suit their needs. The legislation is designed to ensure Maryland residents can continue to purchase and utilize consumer goods regardless of the type of energy used to power them. Additionally, it repeals provisions related to the low-emission vehicle program and the zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicle sales program, recognizing the importance of consumer energy choice in achieving balanced and effective energy solutions.

Across the country, more than 100 localities and several states have undertaken efforts to prohibit or severely restrict an energy source to its citizens, often through ordinances or building codes. These bans deprive consumers of choice, increase costs, threaten energy reliability and resilience, and significantly impact economic development.

The preservation of natural gas also ensures Maryland residents have reliable heating options during extreme weather events. Overreliance on any single energy source can jeopardize the stability of Maryland's energy system. Natural gas infrastructure remains one of the most reliable energy delivery systems, with unplanned outages affecting only about 1 in 800 customers per year, compared to an average of one outage per year per customer for the electric sector.

For these reasons, we respectfully request your support for HB 1258.

Sincerely,

Sarah Peters  
Executive Director