



TESTIMONY FOR SB 0116

Board of Public Works – Contract Review – Climate and Sustainability Information

Budget and Taxation Committee

FAVORABLE

TO: Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair; Senator Jim Rosapepe, Vice-Chair; and the Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

FROM: Patrick Crump, member of the Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network

DATE: February 18, 2026

The Episcopal Church believes that global climate change is not only a scientific concern or environmental issue, but what the United Nations calls "the defining issue of our time... at a defining moment" (UN Secretary General, September 10, 2018). We believe that clean, safe, and renewable energy is essential to preserve God's creation, and our Church has passed numerous resolutions in support of this, such as on fossil fuel non-proliferation and supporting a clean energy future. We are proud that Maryland has mandated a net-zero emissions target by 2045, with a 60% reduction by 2031, thus hastening the adoption of clean energy sources and decarbonization technologies.

As reported by Maryland Matters on January 30 this year, however, Maryland is heading in the wrong direction as it strives to meet these targets. The sobering data, revealed by the University of Maryland's Center for Global Sustainability, indicates that state and federal policies currently on the books in Maryland will only reduce globe-warming emissions 42% from 2006 levels by 2031.

We support the Board of Public Works – Contract Review – Climate and Sustainability Information Act as one of the many measures needed to keep Maryland's emissions reduction targets front and center in contracting and investment decisions that may have an impact on our environment.

The Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network requests a FAVORABLE report.