



## Senate Bill 373

**Position: Unfavorable**

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Date: February 19, 2026

---

Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members and federated partners, and we work to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

Senate Bill 373 (SB 373) requires the Governor to withdraw the State from participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

Maryland businesses and households continue to face significant cost pressures, and energy affordability remains a critical concern for employers across the state. Participation in RGGI imposes additional compliance costs on electricity generation that can ultimately be passed on to consumers, increasing utility costs and operating expenses for businesses of all sizes. At a time when Maryland is grappling with broader economic challenges, policies that further increase the cost of doing business risk undermining the State's competitiveness.

Senate Bill 373 provides Maryland with greater flexibility to pursue energy and environmental policies that reflect the unique needs of our economy, workforce, and ratepayers. By stepping away from a multistate framework, the State can evaluate and implement approaches that balance environmental stewardship with economic growth, reliability, and affordability. This flexibility is particularly important for energy-intensive industries and employers that are sensitive to price volatility and regulatory uncertainty.

The bill also promotes transparency and accountability by requiring a clear and orderly withdrawal process and reporting to the General Assembly. This ensures policymakers retain oversight while considering future energy strategies that support emissions reductions without imposing unnecessary burdens on businesses and consumers.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a **favorable report on SB 373**.