



Senate Bill 270

Public Service Commission – Full Costs and Benefits Analysis of Sources of Electricity Generation

Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Education, Energy and Environment Committee

Date: February 17, 2026

From: County Commissioners of Worcester County

Worcester County supports Senate Bill 270, which would provide the state with a more accurate understanding of energy costs.

As Maryland moves toward clean energy, residents are grappling with some of the highest electric rates in the country. A full costs and benefits analysis of sources of electricity generation is a logical way to determine the true price of each type of generation. A better understanding of costs will allow state leaders to make decisions on energy policy that support renewable energy initiatives while taking into account the financial impact on Maryland ratepayers.

This bill ensures that a thorough analysis of energy costs occurs. While we all support clean energy, the fact that renewable options like wind and solar are not always available and need to be partnered with battery storage and/or rely on fossil fuel is something that must be considered going forward. A Levelized Full System Cost of Electricity examination would consider the irregularity of renewable energy and as such will provide us with the true cost of these energy options. We urge you to provide a favorable report to Senate Bill 270. Thank you.



Maryland Farm Bureau

3358 Davidsonville Road | Davidsonville, MD 21035
410-922-3426 | www.mdfarmbureau.com

February 17, 2026

To: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau

RE: IN SUPPORT OF – Senate Bill 270 Public Service Commission – Full Costs and Benefits Analysis of Sources of Electricity Generation

On behalf of the 7,000 farm families of the Maryland Farm Bureau, we respectfully request a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 270. Maryland agriculture operates on narrow margins and depends on reliable, affordable electricity. Irrigation, poultry house ventilation, dairy cooling, grain drying, and on-farm processing run around the clock. Even modest increases in per-kilowatt-hour rates or new demand charges directly impact farm profitability and regional competitiveness.

SB 270 aligns directly with Maryland Farm Bureau policy supporting energy reliability, rate affordability, transparency in utility ratemaking, and careful evaluation of policies that affect ratepayers. The bill directs the Public Service Commission to conduct a comprehensive, system-wide cost and benefit analysis of competing generation sources, including the full cost of reliability, transmission, backup capacity, and storage. That disciplined approach reflects our policy position that energy decisions must account for total system impacts and protect consumers, including agricultural producers.

By promoting transparency, accountability, and sound fiscal analysis, SB 270 strengthens Maryland's long-term energy planning. A clear understanding of full system costs will help ensure a balanced generation portfolio that maintains reliability, supports economic growth, and protects ratepayers. That certainty benefits farmers, rural communities, and the broader Maryland economy alike.

For these reasons, the Maryland Farm Bureau respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE** report on Senate Bill 270.

Please reach out to Ryan Snow at ryan@randrsolutions.us with any questions.