

Quaker Voice of Maryland



SB341 - SUPPORT

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SB0341 - Solar Energy Generating Systems and Solar Renewable Energy Credits (Affordable Solar Act)

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee February 19th, 2025

On behalf of Quaker Voice of Maryland, I respectfully urge a favorable report on SB0341, *Solar Energy Generating Systems and Solar Renewable Energy Credits (Affordable Solar Act)*.

As Friends, we are guided by a commitment to stewardship, equity, and care for our communities and our planet. SB0341 reflects these values by both ensuring that the transition to clean energy is fair and transparent and by expanding access to clean, affordable energy to all.

Families across the state are feeling the strain of rising electricity costs, often without knowing how those costs are determined. SB0341's escrow system would make this process transparent and provide Marylanders with confidence that the transition to clean energy is responsible and fair. It would protect ratepayers while helping us build the clean energy system we need to slow climate change.

We are especially encouraged by the bill's expansion of access to solar energy. Renters and others without rooftop options have long been excluded from access to clean, affordable energy, and the portable solar provisions in SB0341 change that. They allow more people to lower their energy bills and contribute to a cleaner, more sustainable grid, reflecting the Quaker values of equity and environmental stewardship.

SB0341 will help us achieve our renewable electricity goals, increase transparency in the rate-making process, and make cheap clean solar power more accessible to all.

For these reasons, and with optimism about the clean, equitable future we can build together, we respectfully urge a favorable report on SB0341.