

HB0663_Department_of_the_Environment_Federal_Polic

Uploaded by: Cecilia Plante

Position: FAV



TESTIMONY FOR HB0663

Department of the Environment - Federal Policy on Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Reporting

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Rosenberg

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0663 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists, and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Our members do not generally support bills that require state agencies to provide additional reporting unless that reporting is crucial to providing much needed data that will facilitate problem solving. This bill is all about reporting, but we believe that it will help the General Assembly take appropriate steps to ensure that changes in federal greenhouse gas emissions policy do not hurt Marylanders.

The bill requires the Department of the Environment (MDE) to create a twice-yearly report on any legally valid changes to federal policy on greenhouse gas emissions including changes that –

- Rescind a finding that the greenhouse gas emissions from new motor vehicles and engines cause air pollution
- that may endanger public health or welfare
- repeal greenhouse gas emissions standards for motor vehicles and engines
- repeal greenhouse gas emissions standards for stationary sources

It also requires the MDE to state what steps they are taking to offset these changes. We believe that this is important information that will allow the General Assembly to act in a timely manner to ensure that Maryland continues its necessary work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

We strongly support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.

MDE HB 663 SUP - EEE.pdf

Uploaded by: Jeremy D Baker

Position: FAV



The Maryland Department of the Environment
Secretary Serena McIlwain

House Bill 663 - Department of the Environment - Federal Policy on Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Reporting

Position: Support
Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment
Date: March 24, 2026
From: Jeremy D. Baker, Director of Government Relations

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) **SUPPORTS** HB 663.

Bill Summary

House Bill 663 would require MDE to submit a report on federal environmental policy to the General Assembly every six months, starting by July 1, 2026. The report would be required to detail any changes in federal environmental policy that have been deemed legally valid by a final decision of a federal court, impacts to the Department's delegated authorities, as well as actions the State is taking in response to those changes.

Position Rationale

MDE supports the reporting requirements in HB 663. These mandates would help the legislature and the public track how changes in federal policies impact the state. Furthermore, MDE remains committed to efforts that protect public health, including clean air and clean water initiatives.

Accordingly, MDE asks for an **FAVORABLE** report for **HB 663**.

HB 663 - CBF - FAV - EEE.pdf

Uploaded by: Matt Stegman

Position: FAV



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

House Bill 663

Department of the Environment - Federal Environmental Policy - Reporting

Date: March 24, 2026

To: Education, Energy, & the Environment Committee

Position: **FAVORABLE**

From: Matt Stegman,
MD Staff Attorney

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation **SUPPORTS House Bill 673**, which requires the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to report every six months on any changes in Federal policy related to the environment and MDE's administration of delegated Federal authority, as well as any steps Maryland may be taking to respond to those changes. With an unpredictable Federal regulatory landscape, state-level leadership is more important than ever to protect our progress towards climate resiliency and restoration of the Chesapeake Bay. This bill will ensure that MDE is proactively assessing changes in Federal policy and that the General Assembly is well-prepared to assist in efforts to address those changes.

CBF urges the Committee's FAVORABLE report on HB 663.

For more information, please contact Matt Stegman, Maryland Staff Attorney, at mstegman@cbf.org.

Maryland Office • Philip Merrill Environmental Center • 6 Herndon Avenue • Annapolis • Maryland • 21403

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is a non-profit environmental education and advocacy organization dedicated to the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay. With over 200,000 members and e-subscribers, including 71,000 in Maryland alone, CBF works to educate the public and to protect the interest of the Chesapeake and its resources.

HB0663_Department_of_the_Environment_Federal_Polic

Uploaded by: Rebecca Turner

Position: FAV

HB0663 TESTIMONY

Department of the Environment - Federal Policy on Greenhouse Gas Emissions - Reporting

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Rosenberg
Committee: Environment and Transportation
Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition
Person Submitting: Rebecca Turner
Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0663 on behalf of myself.

This bill is all about reporting, but I believe that it will help the General Assembly take appropriate steps to ensure that changes in federal greenhouse gas emissions policy do not hurt Marylanders.

The bill requires the Department of the Environment (MDE) to create a twice-yearly report on any legally valid changes to federal policy on greenhouse gas emissions including changes that –

- Rescind a finding that the greenhouse gas emissions from new motor vehicles and engines cause air pollution
- that may endanger public health or welfare
- repeal greenhouse gas emissions standards for motor vehicles and engines
- repeal greenhouse gas emissions standards for stationary sources

It also requires the MDE to state what steps they are taking to offset these changes. I believe that this is important information that will allow the General Assembly to act in a timely manner to ensure that Maryland continues its necessary work to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

I strongly support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.

HB0663 crossover FAV - Federal Policy on Greenhous

Uploaded by: Richard KAP Kaplowitz

Position: FAV

HB0663_CrossOver_Bill_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

03/24/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON CROSSOVER BILL HB#/0663 – FAVORABLE

Department of the Environment - Federal Policy on Greenhouse Gas Emissions – Reporting

TO: Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of crossover bill HB#0663, Department of the Environment - Federal Policy on Greenhouse Gas Emissions – Reporting

The Federal Government is totally abandoning its responsibility to protect the environment.

As reported by Nature Magazine *US repeals key ‘endangerment finding’ that climate change is a public threat - Overturning the 2009 decision will lead to billions of extra tons of greenhouse-gas emissions over the next three decades.*¹

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has revoked [the ‘endangerment finding’, a cornerstone of the nation’s efforts to curb emissions of planet-heating greenhouse gases.](#)

Its reversal means that, for the first time in 17 years, the EPA will no longer consider greenhouse gases a threat to public health and welfare. EPA head Lee Zeldin said the move would save the United States money by removing excess regulations, but critics say it will endanger more lives as [climate change intensifies.](#)

The landmark 2009 endangerment finding served as the legal underpinning for US regulations to limit emissions. For now, the EPA is capitalizing on the repeal to roll back emissions rules for cars, trucks and other vehicles, but might later apply it to other sectors, such as power production. By several estimates, ending vehicle regulations alone will add billions of tons of [greenhouse gases](#) to the atmosphere in the coming decades.

Maryland refuses to acquiesce with this dangerous decision. We can accomplish keeping our air cleaner and protected from greenhouse gases by passing this bill. This bill will require, beginning on or before July 1, 2026, and every 6 months thereafter, the Department of the Environment to report to the General Assembly on any changes in federal policy on greenhouse gas emissions that have been deemed legally valid by a final decision of a federal court and, if there has been a change in federal policy, on the steps the State is taking to respond to that change.

The General Assembly can use the reporting to draft legislation to react to and respond in a responsible manner based on actual scientific data and conclusions.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report and pass HB0663.

¹ <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-026-00455-6>