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March 3, 2026

**Support: HB 1104 Residential Solar Energy Systems - Local Inspections and Permitting**

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

Maryland LCV Supports HB 1104 Residential Solar Energy Systems - Local Inspections and Permitting and we thank Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo for his leadership on this issue.

Maryland LCV wants to **Power Maryland Forward**, supporting energy affordability through deployment of solar and storage, defense against more fossil fuels and unchecked utility profits, while getting the most out of the electricity grid we have. HB 1104 advances these goals by modernizing Maryland's residential solar permitting process to reduce delays and lower unnecessary costs. The bill requires automated, code-compliant permit issuance, limits review to health and safety requirements, caps residential solar permit fees at \$200, authorizes remote inspections, and prevents additional manual review for permits approved through the automated system.

By extending the implementation timeline to August 1, 2027 and requiring remote inspections, the HB 1104 addresses lengthy and inconsistent local permitting practices that [increase costs for homeowners](#) and create barriers for installers – particularly small and local businesses. Allowing remote inspections can reduce scheduling delays and administrative burdens without compromising safety, [helping streamline solar deployment](#). Standardizing and modernizing permitting processes ensures Maryland stays on track with its climate goals and commitments.

At a time when electricity demand is rising and households are facing higher bills, we must remove unnecessary obstacles to clean, distributed energy resources that reduce long-term costs and strengthen grid resilience. HB 1104 is a commonsense modernization measure that supports affordability, climate progress, and local economic development.

Maryland LCV urges a favorable report on this bill.

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