

Support HB 673 – Energy Equality Act of 2026
Testimony by Brigitta Mullican, Rockville, MD 20851 ~ Legislative District 17

HB 673 is a necessary step to protect consumer choice, economic fairness, and technological neutrality in Maryland. This legislation ensures that neither local governments nor State agencies may restrict the sale, purchase, or use of lawful consumer goods solely based on the energy source used to power them.

Consumers and businesses should be free to choose products that best meet their needs without government-imposed energy discrimination. HB 673 stops arbitrary bans that increase costs, reduce access, and affect working families, small businesses, and rural communities.

The bill also appropriately repeals mandates requiring the Department of the Environment to impose low-emission vehicle programs and zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicle sales requirements. These mandates place significant financial burdens on consumers, fleets, and supply chains while reducing flexibility and innovation in the marketplace.

By applying retroactively, HB 673 restores consistency and predictability in state policy, protecting Marylanders from regulatory overreach that has already disrupted markets and purchasing decisions.

HB 673 promotes energy equality, preserves consumer freedom, and supports a balanced, practical approach to environmental policies that encourages innovation without coercion.

For these reasons, I strongly urge a favorable report on HB 673.