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HB 345 - Public Utilities - Solar Energy Generating Systems and Solar Renewable Energy Credits (Affordable Solar Act)

House Environment and Transportation Committee

February 10, 2026

SUPPORT

Donna S. Edwards

Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 345. On behalf of our 700 affiliated unions, I offer the following comments.

HB 345 recognizes that Maryland's clean-energy future must be built by Maryland workers and embeds it directly into the structure of our state's solar expansion. By grounding solar expansion to responsible development standards, we ensure the clean-energy transition delivers high-quality, local jobs.

This legislation does more than just expand solar capacity, it supports skilled labor and keeps jobs in Maryland. By setting clear procurement requirements and creating a structured pathway for new distributed and utility-scale projects, HB 345 translates solar expansion into real jobs for the trades that build and maintain these systems. It aligns Maryland's goals with a workforce strategy that values training, safety, and fair wages.

HB 345 ensures that public investment in solar energy delivers good jobs, strong communities, and a clean-energy economy that uplifts workers rather than undercuts them.

For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on HB 345.



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