



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

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HB 1040

DATE: March 3, 2026

SPONSOR: Delegate Stein

ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation

CONTACT PERSON: Bryan Howard (bryan.howard@montgomerycountymd.gov)

POSITION: Support (Department of Environmental Protection)

Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund – Mandated Uses – Climate Change Programs

The bill allocates a portion of alternative compliance fees associated with renewable energy procurement shortfalls under Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard to be used by State agencies to deploy new clean energy projects in Maryland from 2028-2032.

Montgomery County supports using this alternative compliance fee revenue for the intended purpose of funding clean energy projects. These resources will reduce energy consumption and increase energy production, both of which help to reduce energy costs for Marylanders. This investment will also help to stabilize employment and economic activities while supporting the State's climate goals. The recent elimination of federal incentives, grants and loans for clean energy projects has only heightened the need to maintain support for clean energy through the Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

The legislation also increases financial support for low-and-moderate income energy conservation activities and bill assistance. Utility bills in Maryland continue to rise and targeting relief to help Maryland's low-to-moderate income households who face particularly challenging energy burdens should be a priority.

The Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection respectfully requests that the Environment and Transportation Committee issue a favorable report on House Bill 1040.