



**Testimony on: HB990 - Public Utilities - Small Solar Energy Generating System Incentive Program - Eligibility and Generating Capacity**  
**Committee: Environment & Transportation**  
**Organization: Maryland Legislative Coalition Climate Justice Wing**  
**Submitting: Richard Deutschmann**  
**Position: Favorable with Amendments**  
**Hearing Date: March 3, 2026**

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and Committee Members:

We are providing our testimony today in support with amendments of the main parts of HB990, to extend and strengthen the Small Solar Energy Generating System Incentive Program. The Maryland Legislative Coalition Climate Justice Wing is a statewide coalition of 32 grassroots and professional organizations focused on climate justice and we urge you to vote Favorable With Amendments on HB990. We thank Delegate Behler for his leadership on this bill.

Maryland is facing an affordability crisis, as utility bills continue to rise at a greater rate than inflation, with the burden falling especially hard on working class families. Concurrently, the Trump administration continues its assault on the lowest cost and fastest to develop sources of new electricity generation - solar energy and windpower.

HB990 directly addresses each of these issues, by making it easier and more cost-effective for residents and small businesses in the state to utilize solar energy to reduce their utility bills for decades to come, and incentivizing new commercial and industrial generation that will increase reliability, lower the wholesale cost of electricity in the region, and delay the need for expensive new transmission capacity in the state.

The bill makes two simple changes in the program, extending it out from 2028 to 2031, and doubling the cap for larger systems to 540MW. However, we are strongly supporting HB345/SB341, “the Affordable Solar Act”, and believe that this is the best vehicle for stimulating new clean energy generation in the state, and making energy costs more affordable for Marylanders. We would like to see HB990 amended to conform and be incorporated into HB345.

For these reasons, we urge a Favorable with Amendments report on HB990.

350MoCo  
Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church Environmental Justice Ministry  
Chesapeake Earth Holders  
Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility

Climate Law and Policy Project  
Climate Parents of Prince George's  
Climate Reality Project  
ClimateXChange  
Coming Clean Network, Union of Concerned Scientists  
DoTheMostGood Montgomery County  
Echotopia  
Elders Climate Action Maryland  
Fix Maryland Rail  
Glen Echo Heights Mobilization  
Greenbelt Climate Action Network  
HoCoClimateAction  
IndivisibleHoCoMD  
Maryland Legislative Coalition  
Maryland Third Act  
Mizrahi Family Charitable Fund  
Mobilize Frederick  
Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions  
Montgomery Countryside Alliance  
Mountain Maryland Movement  
Nuclear Information & Resource Service  
Progressive Maryland  
Safe & Healthy Playing Fields  
Takoma Park Mobilization Environment Committee  
The Climate Mobilization MoCo Chapter  
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland