

Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and Members of the Committee,

I urge a favorable report by the committee on HB0345, Solar Energy Generating Systems and Solar Renewable Energy Credits (Affordable Solar Act). HB0345 will make significant advances in the clean, affordable, and urgent energy transition that Maryland needs.

Maryland has been a leader on clean energy, and I would like to keep our state in this position. At the same time, Maryland families face some of the highest electricity costs in the nation and prices keep going up.¹ We need to increase energy supply to address affordability. Solar energy is now one of the cheapest forms of energy and we need to take action to increase access to solar for all Marylanders.

HB0345 creates a system that ensure transparency and prevents utilities from passing excessive costs to customers. This approach balances our urgent need for clean energy with strong protections for families and businesses.

I'm very excited about the idea that HB0345 can make solar energy accessible to everyone independently of owning a single family home or not. The portable solar provisions will allow renters and condo owners to finally participate in the clean energy economy. This bill breaks down such barriers that have kept solar access out of reach.

Let's meet the climate crisis with real action by moving forward with HB0345!

Thank you for your consideration.

Tim Lake

Rockville, MD

¹Maryland Matters, "Energy bills likely to tick up again in 2026 after electricity auction clears at maximum price" (July 2025) <https://marylandmatters.org/2025/07/23/energy-bills-likely-to-tick-up-again-in-2026-after-electricity-auction-clears-at-maximum-price/>