



**Md. Washington**  
**Minority Companies Association**  
Connecting Large & Small Businesses to Work Together

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March 4, 2026

Delegate Marc Korman, Chairman  
Environment and Transportation Committee  
250 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, Md. 21401

Reference: House Bill 1561- Electric Generation & Storage- Investor-Owned Electric Companies (Affordable Energy)

Dear Chairman, Korman:

It has come to my attention that the Environment and Transportation Committee will hear public comments on one House Bill 1561 Electric Generation and Storage, Investor-Owned Electric Companies, and its features to expand affordable energy generation throughout the state of Maryland.

Please understand that it is my distinct pleasure to provide testimony representing the members and 25,000 E-subscribers of the Maryland Washington Minority Companies Association (MWMCA) located in Baltimore City Maryland. Since 2002 MWMCA has operated as a building, and material-commodity trade association with hundreds of its members and thousands of its virtual E-subscribers. We advocate for total social economic engineering inclusion in all segments of government and private procurement.

Now comes an opportunity for the “Free State” of Maryland to provide new opportunities and incentives to public utility/energy providers with the ability to finance, design, build and own electric energy generation plants. Currently, the law restricts for such ownership by Public Service Commission (PSC) regulated public utilities to generate electrical energy. If approved, we believe that new generation will ultimately lower consumer energy costs.

House Bill 1561 is a practical solution because it restores accountability. Under current rules, utilities are responsible for reliability, but they are restricted from building generation to meet surging demand. As a result, no single entity is accountable for ensuring Maryland has enough supply. The Affordable Energy Act addresses this by allowing the PSC to direct regulated utilities to develop new renewable generation and battery storage assets when needed for reliability and affordability. Just as importantly, this approach brings energy generation under strong public oversight. Regulators can evaluate costs, determine what will get built, and ensure resources align with Maryland’s policy goals. This is about

complementing competitive markets and not eliminating them. Other states already used this model. In fact, thirty states allow utilities to build regulated generation alongside competitive markets. Maryland should not be at a disadvantage simply because our laws restrict us from responding to clear power supply shortfalls.

This bill is about three things; reining in cost by increasing Maryland's supply and bringing generation under oversight; ensuring that new resources will be built to meet demand; control and accountability so Maryland is not dependent upon unstable status quo. This legislation also supports realistic timelines, modern planning tools, streamline permitting, and coordinated infrastructure deployment so that we do not sacrifice affordability and reliability.

Furthermore, it will also create thousands of new jobs in the design and construction of said plants, as well as thousands of new jobs in plant operations, transmission, and distribution of said electricity. Therefore, from MWMCA's economic position, scores of minority and women owned businesses will benefit from design, construction and material supplying of goods and products use in constructing the new plants. It will create an economic boom for the state's GDP!

For these reasons, I respectfully request your total support for house bill 1561.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wayne R. Frazier, Sr.', with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

Wayne R. Frazier, Sr  
President  
MWMCA