

Testimony on: HB0143 – Electric Company Contracts, Capacity Market Models, and Regional Transmission Organizations – Studies
Committee: Environment and Transportation
Submitting: Rhonda Kranz
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: February 3, 2025

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

Thank you for accepting my written testimony in support of HB0143 – Electric Company Contracts, Capacity Market Models, and Regional Transmission Organizations – Studies.

Maryland has not been served well as part of the multistate transmission organization PJM. PJM lags way behind in keeping up and planning for major increases in our State's energy needs. Although Maryland is making strides in increased renewable energy production PJM has done very little to interconnect these energy sources to the grid. As energy needs increase ratepayers like me are seeing huge increases in electricity prices. We deserve better and we need to know what options our state has to address the failing PJM partnership.

HB0103 addresses many of these concerns through requiring the Maryland's Public Service Commission to work with the Maryland Energy Administration to study the benefits and costs of requiring each Maryland electric company to demonstrate that it has contracted for at least 80% of its load-serving capacity over the next five-year period. The bill also requires the PSC and MEA, in consultation with neighboring states, to jointly study the benefits and costs of options for withdrawing from PJM Interconnection, LLC. The PSC and MEA must submit a joint report of their findings and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2026.

These are important steps for Maryland to take. For these reasons I urge you to vote favorably on HB0143.