

---

**ROBERT G. CASSILLY**  
Harford County Executive



**ROBERT S. McCORD**  
Director of Administration

---

March 6, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman  
Chair, House Environmental and Transportation Committee  
250 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Letter of Support – House Bill 1561 - Electricity Generation and Storage - Investor-Owned Electric Companies and Front-of-the-Meter Storage (Affordable Energy Act)

Chair and Members of the Committee:

Harford County's economy is built on manufacturing, defense-related industries, small businesses, and skilled trades that depend on reliable and uninterrupted power. From Aberdeen Proving Ground and its surrounding defense contractors to advanced manufacturing facilities and logistics operations, our employers require consistent and affordable electricity to remain competitive.

Reliability is not partisan. It is operational. When electricity prices rise due to supply constraints and wholesale market volatility, the impact is immediate. Employers face higher operating costs. Families experience increased utility bills. Local governments must manage growing energy expenses within already constrained budgets.

Maryland is experiencing rising demand driven by economic growth, electrification policies, and the retirement of older generation resources. At the same time, supply has not expanded at the pace necessary to ensure long-term stability. Without stronger planning authority and accountability mechanisms, the imbalance between supply and demand will continue to create price pressure and reliability risk.

HB 1561 strengthens Maryland's ability to ensure adequate in-state supply and reduce exposure to regional market volatility. It provides a more proactive and accountable framework for generation planning under regulatory oversight. That approach is essential for counties like Harford, where economic development, workforce stability, and public safety all depend on dependable energy infrastructure.

*Harford County Celebrates 250 Years ~ 1773-2023*

410.638.3350 | 410.879.2000 | 220 South Main Street, Bel Air, Maryland 21014 | [www.harfordcountymd.gov](http://www.harfordcountymd.gov)

THIS DOCUMENT IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMAT UPON REQUEST

The Honorable Marc Korman

March 6, 2026

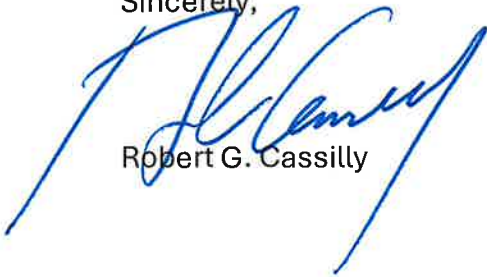
Page 2

For our working families and employers, energy stability means economic stability. Predictable electricity costs support business investment, job retention, and household affordability. Reliable power ensures that hospitals, emergency services, schools, and critical facilities can operate without disruption.

HB 1561 represents a practical step toward protecting ratepayers while strengthening Maryland's long-term energy planning capacity. It recognizes that affordability and reliability must remain central to our state's energy strategy.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge favorable consideration of HB 1561.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Cassilly", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Robert G. Cassilly