

Hearing before the House Environment and Transportation Committee
Maryland General Assembly
February 10, 2026

Statement of Support (FAVORABLE)
of Maryland Catholics for Our Common Home on
HB 345, Affordable Solar Act

Dear Sirs,

I am writing in favor of HB 345, Affordable Solar Act. I am in favor of this for the following reasons:

- Concern about Earth's environment
- Concern for the economic burdens experienced by the poor
- Protection for the workers whose labor is essential to building our energy future

Our state is moving too slowly on protecting the atmosphere from collecting more carbon dioxide. Solar technology is a solution many of us embrace. This bill provides a pathway for people from all economic levels to benefit financially and protect the environment by using portable solar panels. These feed electricity into our burdened electrical utility instead of drawing from it and at the same time save the owner on their electric bill. The bill will enable new energy solutions at both distributed scale (e.g., rooftop solar) and utility scale that will serve Maryland's electricity demands economically. The Affordable Solar Act will also provide important protection for labor to ensure that Maryland's workers on utility-scale solar projects receive fair wages and benefits for their work in building a sound energy future.

For these reasons I strongly urge your support for this bill. Thank you for your consideration of my views and my respectful request for a **favorable** report on House Bill 345, the Affordable Solar Act.