

## **Written Testimony in Opposition to HB1572 – Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Eligible Sources – Waste-to-Energy**

March 11, 2026

**To: Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and Members of the Economic and Transportation Committee**

I am submitting written testimony in opposition to HB1572, Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Eligible Sources – Waste-to-Energy.

As a community volunteer active in ecology and sustainable energy efforts, I am very concerned about this legislation, as it will move Maryland backwards from our sustainable energy goals. This bill, by reintroducing so-called “waste-to-energy” into Maryland’s Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard (RPS), will undo the great progress the state made just last year with the General Assembly’s passage of the Reclaim Renewable Energy Act.

The Reclaim Renewable Energy Act was a great victory for truly clean and sustainable energy by removing toxic incineration from the state’s RPS. This act also was a step forward for environmental justice, protecting vulnerable communities from the toxic substances emitted from facilities disproportionately located in or near these communities.

Let’s not undo this great progress by reintroducing waste-to-energy, just defined differently, into the energy portfolio. Waste-to-energy is in no way a truly renewable source of energy. Instead, it is a source of toxic emissions into the air, jeopardizing the health of Marylanders, especially those who reside in low-income and minority communities.

Please leave waste-to-energy completely out of the RPS, keep Maryland focused on clean, truly renewable and truly sustainable energy. and invest the state’s energy funds into these types of beneficial energy resources.

I strongly urge an unfavorable report on HB1572.

Sincerely,

Tom Taylor  
11 Laurel Hill Road, Unit G  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
301-513-9524