



# Maryland

## Energy Administration

**TO:** Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and Members of the Environment & Transportation Committee

**FROM:** MEA

**SUBJECT:** HB 990 - Small Solar Energy Generating System Incentive Program - Eligibility and Generating Capacity

**DATE:** March 3, 2026

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### **MEA Position: LETTER OF INFORMATION**

The Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) respectfully submits this Letter of Information for House Bill 990.

House Bill 990 extends the deadline for systems to be placed in service under the Small Solar Energy Generating System Incentive Program from January 1, 2028 to January 1, 2031. It also increases the total in-State generating capacity cap for mid-sized systems (20 kW to 5 MW) from 270 megawatts to 540 megawatts.

The Small Solar Energy Generating System Incentive Program plays an important role in supporting distributed solar development across Maryland. This program prioritizes systems located on rooftops, parking canopies, brownfields, and other previously disturbed or industrially designated sites, advancing solar deployment in a manner that minimizes land use conflicts and maximizes co-benefits such as grid resiliency and local economic development.

Extending the placed-in-service deadline provides additional certainty to developers navigating supply chain timelines, interconnection queues, and financing schedules. Increasing the aggregate capacity cap similarly reflects continued market interest in distributed and mid-scale solar installations that are well-suited to Maryland's built environment.

House Bill 990 should also be viewed within the broader context of legislative efforts this Session aimed at increasing in-State solar generation. Multiple proposals are under consideration to expand community solar, incentivize brownfield redevelopment, accelerate rooftop deployment, and strengthen Maryland's clean energy procurement tools. Together, these efforts reflect the General Assembly's continued focus on scaling solar generation to support reliability, rate stability, and climate commitments.

As policymakers consider this measure, it will be important to monitor cumulative program capacity, SREC market dynamics, and ratepayer impacts in coordination with other solar-expansion initiatives. Ensuring that program growth remains aligned with Renewable Portfolio Standard

compliance needs and overall grid planning objectives will help maintain market stability while supporting continued investment.

MEA appreciates the sponsor's continued attention to advancing distributed solar generation in Maryland and looks forward to working with the General Assembly and stakeholders as these policies evolve.

Our sincere thanks for your consideration of this testimony. For questions or additional information, please contact Megan Outten, Policy Manager, at [megan.outten@maryland.gov](mailto:megan.outten@maryland.gov) or 443.842.1780.