



## House Bill 674

Date: February 17, 2026

Committee: Environment and Transportation

**Position: Favorable with Amendments**

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Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members and federated partners, and we work to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

House Bill 674 (HB 674) directs the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC) to conduct a full costs and benefits analysis of electricity generation sources in the State and to report its findings and recommendations by December 1, 2027. The current bill identifies natural gas, nuclear, and offshore wind energy as generation types to be assessed under various scenarios and explicitly requires the use of a levelized full system cost methodology to analyze those options.

The Chamber supports the bill's goals of promoting data-driven energy policy and providing clarity on cost and reliability impacts. As Maryland pursues ambitious energy and climate goals, it is critical that policymakers and regulators have a clear understanding of how different generation resources affect ratepayers, system reliability, and long-term affordability.

HB 674 takes an important step in this direction by requiring the Commission to evaluate generation resources using a full system cost framework. This type of analysis will help inform thoughtful decision-making and provide valuable insight into the tradeoffs associated with various energy pathways, particularly as businesses and households continue to experience upward pressure on energy costs.

The Maryland Chamber believes that a thorough and inclusive analysis will strengthen the usefulness of the Commission's report and enhance its value to the General Assembly, stakeholders, and the public. With that goal in mind, **we respectfully request an amendment to include solar energy as a generation source evaluated in the analysis.** Including solar will provide policymakers with a more complete and accurate assessment of system impacts, costs, and benefits as Maryland continues to evaluate energy policies that affect ratepayers and employers across the State.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a **Favorable with Amendments Report** on **HB 674**.