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February 17, 2026

**SUPPORT: HB 629 - Maryland Energy Administration - Study on
Land-Based Wind Energy**

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

Maryland LCV supports HB 629 - Maryland Energy Administration - Study on Land-Based Wind Energy and we thank Delegate Johnson for his leadership on this issue.

A January 2025 report from the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA) found, “Solar photovoltaic (PV) and land-based wind are the least-cost clean energy alternatives.” It goes on to say that “limited resource potentials” for these sources necessitate additional clean resources for more clean in-state generation (e.g. offshore wind, which provides tremendous generating potential).

In order to deploy more of these least-cost clean energy sources, a study is a reasonable next step and will provide an understanding of the aforementioned “limited resource potentials.” The bill outlines that the study will include the locations for potential land-based wind energy generation and the compatibility of onshore wind with military radar technologies. Turbine technology has changed and lessons have been learned from other projects since the last time these assessments were made, which makes now a good time for a study.

Projected electricity demand is one factor in Marylanders’ rising energy bills. There are currently 245 MW of onshore wind capacity in Maryland across five projects. This study can assess the potential for more energy supply from one of the least-cost clean energy sources, and thus help address energy affordability.

Maryland LCV urges a favorable report on HB 629.