



HB0620 - SUPPORT  
Frances Stewart, MD  
Elders Climate Action Maryland  
[frances.stewart6@gmail.com](mailto:frances.stewart6@gmail.com)  
301-718-0446

HB0620 – Commemorative Months – Maryland Climate Education Month

Meeting of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

March 17, 2026

Dear Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and Members of the Committee, on behalf of Elders Climate Action Maryland, I urge a favorable report on HB0620, Maryland Climate Education Month.

Elders Climate Action is a nationwide organization devoted to ensuring that our children, grandchildren, and future generations have a world in which they can thrive. The Maryland Chapter has members across the state.

In much of our work on the climate crisis, we focus on intergenerational work. Children and teens are aware of climate change, but often have little knowledge of what to expect and what can be done. That can cause significant anxiety as they face a worsening problem that will affect the rest of their lives without the knowledge and skills they need. Climate education can help, especially when it focuses on solutions and skills. Educators around the country have found that climate is an important and fruitful area to explore, not just in the sciences but also in the arts and other parts of the curriculum.

According to the Yale Program on Climate Change Communications, 85% of Marylanders agree that “schools should teach about global warming.”<sup>1</sup> Declaring a Maryland Climate Education Month each year would bring focus and new resources to help teachers with their vital work.

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<sup>1</sup> “Yale Climate Opinion Maps 2024,” *Yale Program on Climate Change Communication*, n.d., accessed March 13, 2026, <https://climatecommunication.yale.edu/visualizations-data/ycom-us/>.

It isn't just children and teens who need climate education. We work with adults of all ages who have serious misconceptions about our climate or who have no idea what they can do or what resources are available to them. There is great potential during a Climate Education Month to fill that gap through public libraries, webinars, tabling at farmers' markets, a Healthy Homes Fair, etc.

For these reasons and more, we strongly urge a favorable report on HB0620 and hope you will join us at a Maryland Climate Education Month event.

Thank you.