



HB0620

Commemorative Months - Maryland Climate Education Month

Testimony before Government, Labor and Elections Committee

Hearing March 17, 2026

Position: Favorable

Dear Delegate Melissa Wells and Delegate Kenneth Kerr, and members of the committee, my name is Amy Richards, and I represent the 1700+ members of Indivisible Howard County. Indivisible Howard County is an active member of the Maryland Legislative Coalition (with 30,000+ members). We are providing written testimony today **in support of HB0620**, which would require the Governor, on an annual basis, to proclaim April as Maryland Climate Education Month. This proclamation would encourage participation in climate activities and initiatives by Maryland citizens and prompt action and engagement. We thank Delegates Moreno, Terrasa and Vogel for introducing this bill.

Marylanders are engaged and passionate about our environment and motivated to take action towards our shared climate goals. When the Governor proclaims the month of April, traditional for celebrating Earth Day, as a month for Maryland citizens to become informed environmental stewards, citizens are given a call to shared action. Education is part of any successful effort to drive change in our communities and April aligns with the spring season when citizens increasingly engage in outdoor activities including those that align with our climate initiatives.

Our state is dedicated to fostering a culture of sustainability and environmental responsibility. Education partners, including institutions of higher education, primary and secondary schools, as well as research organizations, and environmental and advocacy groups in the State are the states' partners in this effort. Together, we have a responsibility to care for our natural resources and to promote sustainability.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

We respectfully urge a favorable report.

Amy Richards
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