



HB0620 – Commemorative Months – Maryland Climate Education Month
Position: Favorable

House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee

March 17, 2026 – 1:00 PM

Jennifer Laszlo Mizrahi, co-founder, Mizrahi Family Charitable Fund

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jennifer Laszlo Mizrahi, and I am testifying **in support of HB0620**. As a member of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change and several other climate boards, I have the opportunity to assess different initiatives and their cost-effectiveness. I am testifying in my capacity of co-founder of the [Mizrahi Family Charitable Fund](https://mizrahienterprises.com/charitable) (a DAF), which supports dozens of nonprofit organizations working on environmental education, public health, and community resilience.

I live in Annapolis, where we are experiencing the increasingly visible impacts of sea level rise and recurrent flooding. Across Maryland, residents are already feeling the consequences of more dangerous weather events—from devastating flooding in communities like Ellicott City to impacts on farmers, watermen, and coastal communities that depend on healthy ecosystems and predictable weather patterns.

Despite these growing risks, public understanding about the causes of climate pollution, the impacts on health and local economies, and the practical solutions available remains far too limited. Expanding public education is one of the most effective tools we have to empower Marylanders to protect their families, lower their energy costs, and strengthen our communities.

Designating **April as Maryland Climate Education Month** will help create a statewide platform for schools, universities, nonprofits, businesses, faith institutions, and local governments to share accurate, science-based information. In an era when misinformation is widespread, providing trusted education is more important than ever.

A month-long effort also aligns well with the many environmental activities that already take place in April, including Earth Day and community volunteer events. Designating the entire month will encourage broader participation and give schools and community organizations more time to host educational programs and events.

Education also helps residents understand the many opportunities available to them. Federal and state programs provide billions of dollars in incentives for energy efficiency, clean energy, electric vehicles, and home improvements that reduce pollution while saving families money. Yet many households—especially lower- and moderate-income families—are still unaware of

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these opportunities. Climate Education Month can help ensure Marylanders learn how to access these resources.

Maryland has long been a national leader in environmental stewardship. By establishing Maryland Climate Education Month, the General Assembly can help ensure that residents of all ages have the knowledge and tools they need to participate in solutions that protect our environment, strengthen our economy, and safeguard public health.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to give **HB0620 a favorable report**.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Laszlo Mizrahi

Co-Founder, Mizrahi Family Charitable Fund (<http://mizrahienterprises.com/charitable>)

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