



HoCoClimateAction.org
Howard County, Maryland

Testimony: [HB0620](#) – Commemorative Months - Maryland Climate Education Month
Hearing Date: March 17, 2026
Bill Sponsor: Delegate Moreno
Committee: House Government, Labor, and Elections
Submitting: Wendy Hall for Howard County Climate Action
Position: Favorable

Dear Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr and committee members,

[HoCo Climate Action](#) is a [350.org](#) local chapter and a grassroots organization representing approximately 1,400 subscribers. We are also a member of the [Climate Justice Wing](#) of the [Maryland Legislative Coalition](#). Our organization works with residents and ally organizations including student-led organizations to promote a safe climate and clean energy future. Specifically, we have worked extensively on clean energy and on building electrification to help Maryland achieve its ambitious climate goals, including net-zero emissions.

We urge you to vote favorably on **HB0620– Commemorative Months - Maryland Climate Education Month**. This bill, which establishes April as Maryland Climate Education Month, is a vital step in ensuring our state remains a leader in environmental stewardship. By requiring an annual proclamation, this legislation does more than just mark a date on the calendar; it creates a structured opportunity for:

Public Awareness: Encouraging Marylanders of all ages to understand the specific climate challenges facing our Chesapeake Bay and coastal communities due to sea level rise and all the costs of continuing our dependence on fossil fuels.

Action-Oriented Engagement: Aligning public education with the State’s existing climate commitments, such as the Climate Solutions Now Act.

Youth Leadership: Providing a platform for students and educators to showcase innovative environmental solutions.

On the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970, an estimated 20 million Americans answered Senator Gaylord Nelson’s call for a teach-in to demand action for a cleaner, healthier environment. At that time, the public was unaware of the impacts of greenhouse gases in polluting our atmosphere. It has taken since then for the public to acknowledge that the climate crisis is attributed to humans burning fossil fuels yet there are still many climate deniers. It is critical to focus on educating the public in raising awareness about climate change and its causes, consequences, and solutions. We have been inspired by the students we have had the privilege of working with on climate action and hope many more students will take action through focused education.

Climate change is not a distant threat but a current reality for our state. Designating April—the same month we celebrate Earth Day—as Climate Education Month ensures that Maryland’s focus on sustainable climate remains a consistent public priority.

We respectfully urge a favorable report on **HB0620**.

Howard County Climate Action
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