



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

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TO: Delegate J. Sandy Bartlett, Chair
Delegate Debra Davis, Vice Chair
Judiciary Committee Members
FROM: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus
DATE: 02/17/2026
RE: HB0572 - Attorney General Actions and Climate Crimes
Accountability Fund (Climate Crimes Accountability Act)

The MLLC supports HB0572 - Attorney General Actions and Climate Crimes Accountability Fund (Climate Crimes Accountability Act)

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation that improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a crucial voice in the development of public policy that uplifts the Latino community and benefits the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB0572.

Climate change is causing devastating impacts on access to food, water, human health, and the environment¹. People are living through life-altering weather events that are destroying entire communities and governments need to respond to the needs of communities affected by climate change. Climate change is a problem affecting all Marylanders and in particular, the Latino population.

Nationally, 7 in 10 Latinos state that climate change has directly impacted their community making climate change reform a priority for Latino voters². Additionally, Latinos are also affected by climate change due to their overrepresentation in workforce industries that have been impacted by climate change such as agriculture, tourism, and general labor³.

This bill will create an avenue for Marylanders to litigate against companies that have created insurmountable climate problems in the state and begin to address the harms incurred. All money collected from these suits would be placed in a new fund, created through this bill, that would fund programs dedicated to mitigating or repairing the harms caused by the climate crisis in Maryland. This bill has the opportunity to begin to address climate change issues plaguing Latino communities in Maryland.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HB0572.

¹ [NOAA. Climate change impacts.](#)

² [Pew Research Center. Most U.S. Latinos say global climate change and other environmental issues impact their local communities. 4 Oct. 2021.](#)

³ [UnidosUS. The Climate Crisis Is a Latino Civil Rights Crisis. 25 March. 2024.](#)

