

January 27, 2021

BILL: SB0076
TITLE: Climate Crisis and Education Act
POSITION: SUPPORT
HEARING DATE: 2/2/2021
COMMITTEE: Budget and Taxation
SPONSOR: Senator Benjamin Kramer

Super Bowl LV: Fossils versus Renewables

Pat George (announcer): Here we are at the big game. The Fossils have had a 100-year waltz, winning every game, but the young Renewables are on the field with the wind at their back.

Fred Arnold (sidekick): I used to be a Fossil fan, I sure do like my warm home and my cheap gas. But my kids tell me that if we increase two degrees centigrade, Greenland ice melts and the Eastern Shore goes underwater.

Pat: Oh, those young Renewables think they're so smart with their statistics and their graphs. I tell you the Fossils are hot and they're not giving up.

Fred: My daughter tells me that "natural gas" actually is methane, CH₄. That's carbon with four hydrogen atoms. She calculated that our BGE bill showing 1,052 therms for heat and cooking emitted 5.62 metric tons of CO₂ equivalent. Imagine that! My townhouse generates over five tons of greenhouse gas! Who knew? She says it creates a blanket that traps heat and lasts for about 100 years. I made the mistake of calling her a "tree hugger" and she sat me down for 50 PowerPoint slides that convinced me that science matters.

Pat: Renewables want the Commissioner to eliminate the Free Pollution Rule. Renewables say that if Fossils had to pay about \$10-\$15 per ton of pollution, it would level the field. The refs look the other way when Fossils pollute, so solar farms and wind turbines are hard to sell.

Fred: My daughter says that Commissioner Hogan will be a superhero if he eliminates the Free Pollution Rule and quarterback the **Climate Crisis and Education Act (CCEA)** across the finish line. She says that Renewable fans across the county will sing his praises.

For these reasons and more, I David Saunders urge a FAVORABLE REPORT on SB0076.

Respectfully submitted,

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Cc: Members of the Budget and Finance Committee