

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

Dear Members of the Committee,

We live outside Easton, MD, near the Miles River where at only 8 feet above high tide, we are at risk for flooding during a hurricane. Neighbors are losing shoreline at an alarming rate.

We are avid birders and travel the Eastern Shore searching for birds. In our travels over the years we have seen land on Hooper's Island and around Blackwater NWR disappear. We have observed dead trees and loss of farmland due to saltwater intrusion. A fellow birder lives on over a 100 acres of farmland and waterfront property in Dorchester County which has been in his family for 300 years. He does not expect this family farm to exist in 50 years. Land that was home to some of our favorite bird species no longer exists. This rate of change in our lifetimes is a loud wake up call.

The Climate Crisis and Education Act incrementally raises the price of fossil fuels, a main cause of the greenhouse gas emissions changing our climate and life as we know it on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The funds collected will support the green infrastructure we need and contribute to the desperately needed funds for education in Maryland.

The Climate Crisis and Education Act is a real solution to the effects the Eastern Shore is experiencing due to Climate Change. It also helps Maryland meet the goal of being carbon neutral by 2045. For these reasons, we, Linda and Peter Yungbluth, urge a favorable report on SB0076.

Thank you for all that you do as public servants.

Linda and Peter Yungbluth