

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB332, Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources

Hearing Date: February 4, 2021

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Ivey

Committee: Economic Matters

Submitting: Liz Feighner

Position: Favorable

As a Maryland resident in District 13, I am writing to urge you to support HB0332 to remove polluting trash incineration as "renewable energy" under the Renewable Portfolio Standard. We need to fix a mistake Maryland made ten years ago allowing this terrible subsidy.

Burning trash is not clean energy, period. Maryland's trash incinerators emit high levels of mercury, lead, and other air pollutants and I object to subsidizing this. The Renewable Portfolio Standard was created to support the development of renewable energy, not to give extra profits to aging, polluting facilities like trash incinerators. I pay for these subsidies through my utility bill, and I want them to support truly renewable energy, not burning trash. It is also a social and racial environmental injustice.

We are in a climate crisis and now is the time to correct the mistakes of the past - so please support HB0332 and end Maryland's subsidies for trash incineration.

Liz Feighner

Laurel MD

District 13