



**TESTIMONY FOR HB0040**  
**MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION STUDY ON GEOTHERMAL HEATING AND**  
**COOLING SYSTEMS AND GEOTHERMAL ENERGY WORKGROUP**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Charkoudian

**Committee:** Economic Matters

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** **FAVORABLE**

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0040 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Our members are very concerned about our environmental stewardship. In Maryland, we have been on a path to support the fossil fuel industry and pave as much earth for roads as possible. We should really be doing the opposite – looking for ways to lower our carbon footprint and trying out new avenues to switch to clean energy as quickly as possible. We need to do this for our economy, our health and our children.

This study would help us explore the increased use of geothermal energy through ground source heat pumps. Use of heat pumps would significantly decrease peak time energy usage, which would help us retire some of the most polluting fossil fuel plants earlier.

This bill would incentivize the deployment of geothermal, create a job market in well-paid green jobs and support our more rural areas in converting off of dirtier fuels.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.