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February 4, 2021

The Honorable Dereck Davis and
Members of the House Economic Matters Committee

REPRESENTATIVES

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VACANT

Local 600
JASON WEAVER

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Local 631
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Local 610
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Local 1949
ERIC BILSON

RE: HB332 - OPPOSE

As State Legislative Director for the Transportation Division of the International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Worker's I am urging your committee to oppose HB332, "Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard - Eligible Sources."

Our members are employed by CSX in providing rail service to Covanta, the waste-to-energy facility in Montgomery County. We understand there are many other union members employed in the operations of other waste-to-energy facilities throughout the state whose jobs may also be on the line as a result of eliminating waste-to-energy from the Renewable Portfolio Standard.

We understand renewable energy policies are important for Maryland's future, but we also believe energy derived from waste-to-energy should be a part of the state's programs for tradable renewable energy credits as Tier 1, especially since there are no feasible plans as an alternate to disposing of the waste handled by these facilities.

These facilities and the jobs associated with their processes are family wage jobs and benefits that cannot be replaced easily, if at all. Moreover, they provide economic benefits for communities through suppliers, service providers, educational resources and tax payments.

We therefore urge your committee to oppose HB332 which would remove waste-to-energy from the Renewable Portfolio Standard.

Sincerely,

Lawrence E. Kasecamp
MD State Legislative Director
SMART Transportation Division