

**February 16, 2021**

**BILL: HB 33**

**TITLE: Climate Crisis and Education Act**

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

**HEARING DATE: 2/18/2021**

**COMMITTEE: Economic Matters**

**SPONSOR: Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo**

### **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, CH<sub>4</sub>. 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 CO<sub>2</sub> 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 quarterbackes 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 HB 33.

Respectfully submitted,

**David Saunders CC-P\*, Volunteer with Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) 410-456-8542 cell**

**\*Climate Change Professional (CC-P), Certified by the Association of Climate Change Officers and the State of Maryland**

Cc: Members of the Economic Matters Committee

