



Nina Beth Cardin  
SB414 – Climate Solutions Now  
Favorable  
1.26.21

Dear Chairman Pinsky, Vice-Chair Kagan and Honorable Members of the Committee,

You have before you in SB414 one of the most important pieces of legislation dedicated to mitigating the impact of the climate here and elsewhere (for climate knows no bounds) and contributing to the improved welfare of all residents of the state of Maryland. And it does so while beginning to rectify environmental inequities suffered by front-line black, brown and low-income communities.

This bill will reduce greenhouse gases, create jobs and increase tree cover by 400% – which alone will address so many issues like improving air quality (by absorbing particulate matter not just greenhouse gases), mitigating the heat-island effect, contributing to stormwater management and the need to create green refuges in urban environments for both physical and mental well-being.

This bill will help urban and rural communities alike, reminding us we are all in this together.

And we know that not acting decisively now because we are afraid of the cost will end up costing us more in the future.

Passing this bill will also symbolize how seriously Maryland takes our role in contributing to the solution to the biggest existential challenge of our time. This problem requires all hands on deck.

It is the right thing to do because all of us have a right to a healthy environment.

I urge you to pass this bill.

Respectfully,

Nina Beth Cardin