

January 28, 2021

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 414 – *Climate Solutions Now Act***

**Dear Chairman Pinksy and Members of the Committee,**  
Lauren Brown supports SB414, the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2021.

Globally, we are at a critical juncture and we must all stand up and act. The choices we make are incredibly important. We have a responsibility to listen to science and do everything we can do to take care of the planet. Maryland should be a leader within our country when it comes to climate change legislation. It is imperative that we pass this bill and motivate a transition to renewable energy which is win-win for the environment and the economy. There are many people ready to act, ready to tackle climate change. Let us harness this momentum and make changes on a state policy level that will really help move us in the right direction.

This bill provides a pathway for Maryland to embrace a new green future by:

- Using climate science to direct us, mandating a 60% reduction in carbon emissions below 2006 levels by 2030 and to reaching net zero emissions by 2045.
- Climate spending considering environmental justice and making sure “disadvantaged” communities get the support they need.
- Dictating that labor perspectives are brought into the conversation and planning process.
- Implementing several immediate steps to reduce emissions, including planting 5 million native trees by 2030, electrifying state vehicles, requiring several net neutral buildings and mandating energy efficiency increases.

Many foreign countries have set policies and are working full throttle towards environmental sustainability. That is because we do not have time to do anything else but to give our all to protect this planet. Evidence of climate change is apparent right now in Maryland, with nuisance flooding, high heat days, and storm surges. There is no plan B. We need to act quickly and listen to the scientists. A green economy is the way of the future, the only way. We encourage a FAVORABLE report for this essential legislation.

Signed,  
[Lauren Brown]  
[page fact sheet](#))