



Ion Storage Systems, Inc.
5000 College Ave, Suite 3122
College Park, MD 20740

February 2, 2021

Re: FAVORABLE SUPPORT REQUESTED for SB460/HB419

Dear Senate Finance and House Economic Matters Committee Members,

I am writing to **request your favorable support for SB 460/ HB 419- Economic Development – Advanced Clean Energy and Clean Energy Innovation Investments and Initiatives.**

Ion Storage Systems, Inc. is located in Maryland Legislative District 21. Ion Storage Systems' Lithium Metal battery technology is poised to propel domestic energy storage to previously unreachable levels of safety, performance and temperature operating ranges. This revolutionary technology will help position the US to energize a new domestic energy storage industry that can overtake the traditional Lithium-Ion manufactured overseas—bringing jobs and economic growth back to the US. With our core technology being initially designed and developed at the University of Maryland (UMD), ISS is now engaged in commercializing its next generation Lithium Metal technology choosing Prince George's county as the home of its newest R&D and manufacturing headquarters. This 20,000 sq ft facility the first of its kind in the state of Maryland will house Ion's initial commercial production footprint with state-of-the-art battery manufacturing, quality control and research and development tools and an increasing staff to support our growth.

I strongly support the development of an advanced energy economy in Maryland and believe that the state is making a smart investment through the Maryland Energy Innovation Institute (MEII). This investment simultaneously advances clean energy technologies developed in our academic institutions while promoting economic development through the innovation and commercialization of those technologies in the state.

MEII's Energy Incubator provided our company's first location to set up business in the state enabling us to launch off from a strong foundation to become the leading battery company in Maryland that we are today.

MEII's early support was absolutely critical in funding the development of this technology and generating venture capital interest

To date with the assistance of MEII we have received \$3.6M in federal and industry contracts and \$5.1M in private VC funding, currently employ 12 people in Maryland, and based on these successes have a plan for rapid growth. In recognition of this we were identified as one of the "Maryland Future 20" companies by Governor Hogan and the Maryland Department of Commerce.

For our success to be replicated in other Maryland university spin-offs MEII must have a stable definitive commitment of revenue to help support its operation. This legislation calls for such a commitment which my organization believes is a worthy investment.

Your consideration and **favorable support of SB 460 and HB 419** will be much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Richard Hanna

Richard Hanna
CEO, Ion Storage Systems, Inc.