



February 12, 2021

Senator Delores G. Kelley
Chair, Finance Committee
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Kelley:

I am writing to request your favorable support for SB 0460 “Economic Development – Advanced Clean Energy and Clean Energy Innovation Investments and Initiatives.”

I am the president and owner of Tenley Consulting, a firm specializing in clean energy and technology innovation. My clients include small startups, large energy companies, NGOs, and multilateral development banks; in various ways I see and interact with multiple parts of the innovation ecosystem.

In 2020, I participated in a Maryland Clean Energy Center program called the Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator. This unique program accelerates the commercialization of new technologies created in Maryland-based universities and Federal Labs with the goal of creating new Maryland-based technology and manufacturing businesses that will have a positive impact on Maryland’s climate goals.

I had the privilege of working with two separate startups through MEIA, one whose focus is to improve the efficiency and economics of tidal power and another whose focus is to improve the efficiency and economics of small, distributed windpower. Both areas are underdeveloped and will be important facets of our transition to a clean energy economy.

This legislation provides baseline funding for the Maryland Clean Energy Center so that the Maryland Energy Innovation Accelerator can continue to accelerate Maryland-based technology and manufacturing businesses.

Your consideration and favorable support of SB 0460 will be much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Michael M. Leifman
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