



Committee: Health and Government Operations

Testimony on: HB469 – “State-Funded Construction and Major Renovation Projects - Solar Panels – Requirement”

Position: Support

Hearing Date: February 17, 2021

The Maryland Sierra Club and the Maryland League of Conservation Voters submit this testimony in support of HB469, which would promote the inclusion of rooftop solar panels on new state buildings and on state buildings which undergo major renovation.

Two years ago, the Maryland General Assembly passed the Clean Energy Jobs Act, which has dramatically expanded our state’s commitment to renewable energy, including in-state generation of solar energy. This ambitious and achievable legislation mandates that 50% of our energy be derived from renewable sources by 2030, and makes Maryland a leader in renewable energy policy.

In order to move forward with clean energy, while maintaining our cherished open-space vistas and protecting our agricultural sector, we must expand our energy production in the built environment. This includes large rooftops, such as those identified in this legislation. This bill would reinforce the state’s commitment to in-state production of solar energy by ensuring that large buildings built with state resources are built with maximum solar panels.

We urge a favorable report on this bill.