



# Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

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March 4, 2022

To: House Economic Matters Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: **Opposition of HB 11 - Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Tier 1  
Renewable Source – Alterations (Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2022)**

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony opposing HB 11. This bill alters the definition of "Tier 1 renewable source" for purposes of excluding energy derived from qualifying biomass, methane from the anaerobic decomposition of organic materials, fuel cells, poultry litter-to-energy, waste-to-energy, refuse-derived fuel, and thermal energy from a thermal biomass system from being eligible for inclusion in the renewable energy portfolio standard.

As the state moves towards more and more renewable energy generation, utilizing biomass to generate energy not only utilizes waste products, but captures the methane and uses it instead of just letting it go into the atmosphere. With many of the paper mills shutting down, the need for a new use of wood products is needed. Anaerobic digesters are starting to be installed on dairy farms to capture methane gas and utilize it as a renewable energy source to make electricity for the farm instead of just letting it go into the atmosphere. We need to be increasing our sources of renewable energy to meet the ever-growing demand on electricity in Maryland, not removing them.

**MDFB Policy:** We support an additional carve-out in the Maryland RPS for woody biomass, poultry litter and livestock manure to energy generation.

**MARYLAND FARM BUREAU RESPECTFULLY OPPOSES HB 11**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colby Ferguson'.

Colby Ferguson  
Director of Government Relations

*For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396*