

BILL: **House Bill 1379-** Department of General Services - Renewable Natural Gas Pilot Program - Establishment

COMMITTEE: House Economic Matters

DATE: March 7, 2024

POSITION: Letter of Concern

Upon review of House Bill 1379– Department of General Servicers - Renewable Natural Gas Pilot Program - Establishment, the Department of General Services (DGS) provides these comments.

The bill will require DGS to operate a pilot program to purchase renewable natural gas (RNG). Establishment of this pilot program would first require market research, issuance of a procurement, data collection and analysis, and a determination of the economic and environmental benefits of the state procuring RNG. At a minimum, DGS would require hiring an additional staff person to manage the pilot.

DGS does not have to issue a procurement to “evaluate the environmental and economic benefits and costs of replacing fossil natural gas with renewable natural gas.” We already know the environmental benefits and price differentials can easily be calculated to determine overall costs.

For additional information, contact Ellen Robertson at 410-260-2908 or Lisa Nissley at 410-260-2922.