

# HOUSE BILL 708

M5, M3

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By: **Delegates Barve and Stein**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2022

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Comprehensive Climate Solutions**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the State to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions  
4 through the use of various measures, including the alteration of statewide  
5 greenhouse gas emissions goals, the establishment of a net-zero statewide  
6 greenhouse gas emissions goal, requiring gas companies and electric companies to  
7 provide certain programs and services, and requiring electric companies to increase  
8 their annual incremental gross energy savings through certain programs and  
9 services; requiring landfill operators and the Department of the Environment to take  
10 certain actions regarding methane emissions; requiring the Department of the  
11 Environment to regulate methane emissions from landfills; requiring the  
12 Commission on Climate Change to establish the Just Transition Employment and  
13 Retraining Working Group to advise the Commission on Climate Change on certain  
14 matters and conduct a certain study; establishing the Maryland Climate Justice  
15 Corps Program; establishing the Climate Transition and Clean Energy Hub in the  
16 Maryland Energy Administration; requiring the Public Service Commission to  
17 establish a certain process for gas companies and electric companies to develop  
18 certain utility transition plans; specifying that certain funding provided under the  
19 Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund may be used for a project that uses  
20 fossil fuel only under certain circumstances; and generally relating to climate change  
21 and measures to combat climate change.

22 BY renumbering

23 Article – Environment

24 Section 2–1204.2

25 to be Section 2–1204.3

26 Annotated Code of Maryland

27 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)

28 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

29 Article – Environment

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 Section 1–701(a) and (f)  
2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
3 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)
- 4 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
5 Article – Environment  
6 Section 1–701(h), 2–1201(4), 2–1204.1, 2–1205, 2–1206, 2–1210, 2–1303(a), and  
7 2–1304  
8 Annotated Code of Maryland  
9 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)
- 10 BY adding to  
11 Article – Environment  
12 Section 1–702, 2–407, 2–408, 2–1204.2, and 2–1303.1  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)
- 15 BY adding to  
16 Article – Natural Resources  
17 Section 8–1927 through 8–1938 to be under the new part “Part III. Maryland Climate  
18 Justice Corps”  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)
- 21 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
22 Article – Public Utilities  
23 Section 7–211(d), (f), (g), and (k)  
24 Annotated Code of Maryland  
25 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)
- 26 BY adding to  
27 Article – State Government  
28 Section 9–2010 and 9–20B–05(f–5)  
29 Annotated Code of Maryland  
30 (2021 Replacement Volume)
- 31 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
32 Article – State Government  
33 Section 9–20B–05(a), (b), and (c)  
34 Annotated Code of Maryland  
35 (2021 Replacement Volume)
- 36 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
37 Article – State Government  
38 Section 9–20B–05(f)  
39 Annotated Code of Maryland  
40 (2021 Replacement Volume)

1 (As enacted by Chapter 13 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the 2021 Special  
2 Session)

3 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
4 That Section(s) 2–1204.2 of Article – Environment of the Annotated Code of Maryland be  
5 renumbered to be Section(s) 2–1204.3.

6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read  
7 as follows:

8 **Article – Environment**

9 **2–1204.2.**

10 **THE STATE SHALL ACHIEVE NET-ZERO STATEWIDE GREENHOUSE GAS**  
11 **EMISSIONS BY 2045.**

12 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read  
13 as follows:

14 **Article – Environment**

15 1–701.

16 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

17 (2) “Business organization” means a corporation, business trust,  
18 partnership, or any other for–profit entity.

19 (3) “Commission” means the Commission on Environmental Justice and  
20 Sustainable Communities.

21 (4) “Community listening session” means a public convening to gather  
22 information and input from community members.

23 (5) “Environmental justice” means equal protection from environmental  
24 and public health hazards for all people regardless of race, income, culture, and social  
25 status.

26 (6) “Environmental organization” means a nonprofit entity engaged in  
27 advocacy or action related to conservation, stewardship of natural resources, or pollution  
28 reduction.

29 (f) The Department shall provide staff for the Commission.

30 (h) The Commission shall:

1 (1) Advise State government agencies on environmental justice and related  
2 community issues;

3 (2) Use data sets and mapping tools to review and analyze the impact of  
4 current State and local laws, permits, actions, and policies on the issue of environmental  
5 justice and sustainable communities, including cumulative impacts, effects, and exposure;

6 (3) Assess the adequacy of State and local government laws to address the  
7 issue of environmental justice and sustainable communities, including assessing  
8 compliance with Title VI of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964;

9 (4) Coordinate with the Children's Environmental Health and Protection  
10 Advisory Council, the Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities, and the  
11 Commission on Climate Change on recommendations related to environmental justice and  
12 sustainable communities; [and]

13 (5) **IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-702 OF THIS SUBTITLE, COORDINATE**  
14 **WITH THE DEPARTMENT ON:**

15 (I) **THE RECOMMENDATION OF A METHODOLOGY FOR**  
16 **IDENTIFYING COMMUNITIES DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY CLIMATE**  
17 **CHANGE;**

18 (II) **THE DEVELOPMENT OF SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO**  
19 **ADDRESS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONCERNS, REDUCE EMISSIONS OF**  
20 **GREENHOUSE GASES AND CO-POLLUTANTS, AND BUILD CLIMATE EQUITY AND**  
21 **RESILIENCE WITHIN DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED COMMUNITIES; AND**

22 (III) **THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GOALS FOR THE PERCENTAGE OF**  
23 **STATE FUNDING FOR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION MEASURES THAT**  
24 **SHOULD BE USED FOR THE BENEFIT OF DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED**  
25 **COMMUNITIES; AND**

26 (6) Recommend options to the Governor and the General Assembly for  
27 addressing issues, concerns, or problems related to environmental justice that surface after  
28 reviewing State laws and policies, including prioritizing areas of the State that need  
29 immediate attention.

30 **1-702.**

31 (A) **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2023, THE DEPARTMENT, IN**  
32 **CONSULTATION WITH THE COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE AND**  
33 **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES, THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE**  
34 **MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF LABOR, AND THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING,**  
35 **SHALL:**

1           **(1) RECOMMEND A METHODOLOGY, BASED ON VARIOUS ECONOMIC,**  
2 **SOCIAL, AND HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS, FOR IDENTIFYING COMMUNITIES**  
3 **DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE;**

4           **(2) DEVELOP SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS TO ADDRESS**  
5 **ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CONCERNS, REDUCE EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES**  
6 **AND CO-POLLUTANTS, AND BUILD CLIMATE EQUITY AND RESILIENCE WITHIN**  
7 **COMMUNITIES DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE;**

8           **(3) SET APPROPRIATE GOALS FOR THE PERCENTAGE OF STATE**  
9 **FUNDING FOR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION MEASURES THAT SHOULD**  
10 **BE USED FOR THE BENEFIT OF DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED COMMUNITIES;**  
11 **AND**

12           **(4) REPORT TO THE MARYLAND COMMISSION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**  
13 **AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE**  
14 **GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE CRITERIA AND RECOMMENDATIONS DEVELOPED**  
15 **UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.**

16           **(B) IN EVALUATING METHODOLOGIES UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS**  
17 **SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER GEOGRAPHIC, PUBLIC HEALTH,**  
18 **ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD, AND SOCIOECONOMIC CRITERIA, INCLUDING:**

19           **(1) AREAS BURDENED BY CUMULATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION**  
20 **AND OTHER HAZARDS THAT CAN LEAD TO NEGATIVE PUBLIC HEALTH EFFECTS;**

21           **(2) AREAS WITH HIGH CONCENTRATIONS OF:**

22           **(i) PEOPLE EXPERIENCING POVERTY, HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT**  
23 **RATES, HIGH RENT BURDENS, LOW LEVELS OF HOME OWNERSHIP, OR LOW LEVELS**  
24 **OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT; OR**

25           **(ii) POPULATIONS THAT HAVE HISTORICALLY EXPERIENCED**  
26 **DISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF RACE OR ETHNICITY; AND**

27           **(3) AREAS THAT ARE VULNERABLE TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE**  
28 **CHANGE, SUCH AS FLOODING, STORM SURGES, AND URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECTS,**  
29 **DUE TO LOW LEVELS OF TREE COVERAGE, HIGH LEVELS OF IMPERVIOUS SURFACES,**  
30 **OR OTHER FACTORS.**

31           **(C) IN CARRYING OUT ITS RESPONSIBILITIES UNDER THIS SECTION, THE**  
32 **DEPARTMENT SHALL SOLICIT INPUT FROM ALL SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION**  
33 **THAT WILL BE IMPACTED BY THE POLICIES DEVELOPED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF**

1 THIS SECTION, INCLUDING INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN AREAS THAT MAY BE IDENTIFIED  
2 AS DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED COMMUNITIES UNDER THE PROPOSED  
3 CRITERIA.

4 **2-407.**

5 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL  
6 THAT IS REQUIRED TO MONITOR AND REPORT METHANE EMISSIONS TO THE  
7 DEPARTMENT.

8 (B) IF METHANE EMISSIONS DATA ACQUIRED FROM AIRCRAFT  
9 OBSERVATIONS, WHERE AVAILABLE, EXCEEDS THE GROUND-LEVEL EMISSIONS  
10 DATA REPORTED BY A MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILL BY MORE THAN 25%, THE  
11 DEPARTMENT SHALL REQUIRE THE LANDFILL OPERATOR TO:

12 (1) INVESTIGATE THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE DATA; AND

13 (2) REASSESS THE METHODOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT USED TO OBTAIN  
14 THE GROUND-LEVEL DATA.

15 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLICLY DISCLOSE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S  
16 WEBSITE:

17 (1) ALL METHANE EMISSIONS DATA OBTAINED THROUGH AIRCRAFT  
18 OBSERVATIONS; AND

19 (2) ANY DISCREPANCIES BETWEEN METHANE EMISSIONS DATA  
20 OBTAINED THROUGH AIRCRAFT OBSERVATIONS AND GROUND-LEVEL METHANE  
21 EMISSIONS DATA REPORTED BY MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILLS.

22 **2-408.**

23 ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2023, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT  
24 REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING SURFACE METHANE EMISSIONS STANDARDS FOR  
25 MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE LANDFILLS.

26 **2-1201.**

27 The General Assembly finds that:

28 (4) The State has the ingenuity to reduce the threat of global warming and  
29 make greenhouse gas reductions a part of the State's future by achieving a 25% reduction  
30 in greenhouse gas emissions from 2006 levels by 2020 and by preparing a plan to meet a  
31 longer-term goal of [reducing greenhouse gas emissions by up to 90% from 2006 levels by

1 2050] ACHIEVING NET-ZERO STATEWIDE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2045 in a  
2 manner that promotes new “green” jobs, and protects existing jobs and the State’s economic  
3 well-being;

4 2–1204.1.

5 The State shall reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions by [40%] **60%** from 2006  
6 levels by [2030] **2032**.

7 2–1205.

8 (a) The State shall develop plans, adopt regulations, and implement programs  
9 that reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with this subtitle.

10 (b) On or before [December 31, 2018] **JUNE 30, 2023**, the Department shall:

11 (1) Submit a proposed plan that reduces statewide greenhouse gas  
12 emissions by [40%] **60%** from 2006 levels by [2030] **2032** to the Governor and General  
13 Assembly;

14 (2) Make the proposed plan available to the public; and

15 (3) Convene a series of public workshops to provide interested parties with  
16 an opportunity to comment on the proposed plan.

17 (c) (1) The Department shall, on or before December 31, 2012, adopt a final  
18 plan that reduces statewide greenhouse gas emissions by 25% from 2006 levels by 2020.

19 (2) The Department shall, on or before December 31, [2019] **2023**, adopt a  
20 final plan that [reduces]:

21 (I) **REDUCES** statewide greenhouse gas emissions by [40%] **60%**  
22 from 2006 levels by [2030] **2032**; AND

23 (II) **SETS THE STATE ON A PATH TOWARD ACHIEVING NET-ZERO**  
24 **STATEWIDE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2045**.

25 (3) [The plans shall be developed in recognition of the finding by the  
26 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that developed countries will need to reduce  
27 greenhouse gas emissions by between 80% and 95% from 1990 levels by 2050] **THE**  
28 **DEPARTMENT SHALL:**

29 (I) **ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2030, ADOPT A FINAL PLAN**  
30 **THAT ACHIEVES NET-ZERO STATEWIDE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2045; AND**

1                   **(II) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2035, REVIEW AND, AS**  
2 **NECESSARY, REVISE THE FINAL PLAN TO ACHIEVE NET-ZERO STATEWIDE**  
3 **GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2045.**

4           (d)     The final plans required under subsection (c) of this section shall include:

5                   (1)     Adopted regulations that implement all plan measures for which State  
6 agencies have existing statutory authority; and

7                   (2)     A summary of any new legislative authority needed to fully implement  
8 the plans and a timeline for seeking legislative authority.

9           **(E) A FINAL PLAN DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION:**

10                   **(1) MAY NOT INCLUDE HIGHWAY WIDENING OR ADDITIONAL ROAD**  
11 **CONSTRUCTION AS A GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION MEASURE;**

12                   **(2) MAY INCLUDE THE USE OF CARBON CAPTURE AND STORAGE**  
13 **TECHNOLOGY AS A GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION MEASURE ONLY IF**  
14 **THE TECHNOLOGY HAS BEEN SCIENTIFICALLY PROVEN TO ACHIEVE VERIFIABLE**  
15 **CARBON REDUCTIONS;**

16                   **(3) SHALL USE THE GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL FOR METHANE**  
17 **OVER A 20-YEAR TIME HORIZON, AS ACCEPTED IN THE MOST RECENT ASSESSMENT**  
18 **OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE, IN ESTIMATING THE**  
19 **STATE'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS;**

20                   **(4) SHALL INCLUDE SPECIFIC ESTIMATES OF THE GREENHOUSE GAS**  
21 **EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS THAT COULD BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE EXPANSION OF**  
22 **MASS TRANSIT OPTIONS; AND**

23                   **(5) SHALL INCLUDE SPECIFIC ESTIMATES OF THE REDUCTIONS**  
24 **EXPECTED FROM EACH GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION MEASURE**  
25 **INCLUDED IN THE PLAN.**

26           [[e]] **(F)**     In developing and adopting a final plan to reduce statewide greenhouse  
27 gas emissions, the Department shall consult with State and local agencies as appropriate.

28           [[f]] **(G)**     (1)     Unless required by federal law or regulations or existing State  
29 law, regulations adopted by State agencies to implement a final plan may not:

30                   (i)     Require greenhouse gas emissions reductions from the State's  
31 manufacturing sector; or



1 (ii) Cause a significant increase in costs to the State's manufacturing  
2 sector.

3 (2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection may not be construed to exempt  
4 greenhouse gas emissions sources in the State's manufacturing sector from the obligation  
5 to comply with:

6 (i) Greenhouse gas emissions monitoring, recordkeeping, and  
7 reporting requirements for which the Department had existing authority under § 2-301(a)  
8 of this title on or before October 1, 2009; or

9 (ii) Greenhouse gas emissions reductions required of the  
10 manufacturing sector as a result of the State's implementation of the Regional Greenhouse  
11 Gas Initiative.

12 [(g)] (H) A regulation adopted by a State agency for the purpose of reducing  
13 greenhouse gas emissions in accordance with this section may not be construed to result in  
14 a significant increase in costs to the State's manufacturing sector unless the source would  
15 not incur the cost increase but for the new regulation.

16 2-1206.

17 (A) In developing and implementing the plans required by § 2-1205 of this  
18 subtitle, the Department shall:

19 (1) Analyze the feasibility of measures to comply with the greenhouse gas  
20 emissions reductions required by this subtitle;

21 (2) Consider the impact on rural communities of any transportation related  
22 measures proposed in the plans;

23 (3) Provide that a greenhouse gas emissions source that voluntarily  
24 reduces its greenhouse gas emissions before the implementation of this subtitle shall  
25 receive appropriate credit for its early voluntary actions;

26 (4) Provide for the use of offset credits generated by alternative compliance  
27 mechanisms executed within the State, including carbon sequestration projects, to achieve  
28 compliance with greenhouse gas emissions reductions required by this subtitle;

29 (5) Ensure that the plans do not decrease the likelihood of reliable and  
30 affordable electrical service and statewide fuel supplies;

31 (6) Consider whether the measures would result in an increase in  
32 electricity costs to consumers in the State;

33 (7) Consider the impact of the plans on the ability of the State to:

- 1 (i) Attract, expand, and retain commercial aviation services; and
- 2 (ii) Conserve, protect, and retain agriculture; [and]
- 3 (8) Ensure that the greenhouse gas emissions reduction measures  
4 implemented in accordance with the plans:
- 5 (i) Are implemented in an efficient and cost-effective manner;
- 6 (ii) Do not disproportionately impact rural or low-income, low- to  
7 moderate-income, or minority communities or any other particular class of electricity  
8 ratepayers;
- 9 (iii) Minimize leakage;
- 10 (iv) Are quantifiable, verifiable, and enforceable;
- 11 (v) Directly cause no loss of existing jobs in the manufacturing  
12 sector;
- 13 (vi) Produce a net economic benefit to the State's economy and a net  
14 increase in jobs in the State, **AS COMPARED WITH A NO-ACTION SCENARIO**; and
- 15 (vii) Encourage new employment opportunities in the State related to  
16 energy conservation, alternative energy supply, and greenhouse gas emissions reduction  
17 technologies, **PARTICULARLY IN AREAS OF THE STATE EXPERIENCING LOW RATES OF**  
18 **EMPLOYMENT OR HIGH CONCENTRATIONS OF POVERTY**;
- 19 **(9) INCORPORATE TOP-DOWN METHANE EMISSIONS DATA ACQUIRED**  
20 **THROUGH AIRCRAFT OBSERVATIONS; AND**
- 21 **(10) USE THE BEST AVAILABLE SCIENTIFIC INFORMATION, AS**  
22 **INCLUDED IN THE MOST RECENT ASSESSMENTS AND REPORTS OF THE**  
23 **INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE.**
- 24 **(B) THE ECONOMIC BENEFIT ANALYSIS UNDER SUBSECTION (A)(8)(VI) OF**  
25 **THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE THE SOCIAL COST OF GREENHOUSE GASES, USING**  
26 **EITHER THE RATE ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OR THE RATE ADOPTED BY THE**  
27 **U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.**

28 2-1210.

29 On review of the study required under § 2-1207 of this subtitle, and the reports  
30 required under § 2-1211 of this subtitle, the General Assembly:

1 (1) May act to maintain, revise, or eliminate the [40%] greenhouse gas  
2 emissions [reduction] **REDUCTIONS** required under [§ 2-1204.1] **§§ 2-1204.1 AND**  
3 **2-1204.2** of this subtitle; and

4 (2) Shall consider whether to continue the special manufacturing  
5 provisions in § 2-1205(f)(1) of this subtitle.

6 2-1303.

7 (a) The Commission shall establish:

8 (1) A Scientific and Technical Working Group;

9 (2) A Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Working Group;

10 (3) An Adaptation and Response Working Group; [and]

11 (4) An Education, Communication, and Outreach Working Group; **AND**

12 **(5) SUBJECT TO § 2-1303.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE, A JUST TRANSITION**  
13 **EMPLOYMENT AND RETRAINING WORKING GROUP.**

14 **2-1303.1.**

15 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, “WORKING GROUP” MEANS THE JUST TRANSITION**  
16 **EMPLOYMENT AND RETRAINING WORKING GROUP OF THE COMMISSION.**

17 **(B) THE COMMISSION SHALL ESTABLISH A JUST TRANSITION**  
18 **EMPLOYMENT AND RETRAINING WORKING GROUP.**

19 **(C) THE WORKING GROUP SHALL INCLUDE:**

20 **(1) TWO MEMBERS OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED BY**  
21 **THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;**

22 **(2) TWO MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED BY**  
23 **THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;**

24 **(3) THE SECRETARY, OR THE SECRETARY’S DESIGNEE;**

25 **(4) THE SECRETARY OF LABOR, OR THE SECRETARY’S DESIGNEE;**

26 **(5) ONE ELECTRICAL WORKER, SELECTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL**  
27 **BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS;**

1           **(6) ONE CONSTRUCTION LABORER, SELECTED BY THE BALTIMORE**  
2 **WASHINGTON LABORERS' DISTRICT COUNCIL;**

3           **(7) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION**  
4 **TRADE INDUSTRY, SELECTED BY THE BALTIMORE-DC METRO BUILDING AND**  
5 **CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL;**

6           **(8) FOUR LABOR REPRESENTATIVES, SELECTED BY THE MARYLAND**  
7 **STATE AFL-CIO;**

8           **(9) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY INDUSTRY,**  
9 **SELECTED BY THE SECRETARY;**

10           **(10) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND CHAPTER OF THE**  
11 **SIERRA CLUB, SELECTED BY THE MARYLAND CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB;**

12           **(11) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRY,**  
13 **SELECTED BY THE MARYLAND-DC-DELAWARE-VIRGINIA SOLAR ENERGY**  
14 **INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION;**

15           **(12) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WIND ENERGY INDUSTRY,**  
16 **SELECTED BY THE AMERICAN WIND ENERGY ASSOCIATION;**

17           **(13) TWO REPRESENTATIVES OF REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP**  
18 **SPONSORS, ONE SELECTED BY THE MARYLAND CHAPTERS OF THE ASSOCIATED**  
19 **BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS AND ONE SELECTED BY THE BALTIMORE-DC**  
20 **METRO BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCIL;**

21           **(14) ONE COMMUNITY COLLEGE REPRESENTATIVE, SELECTED BY THE**  
22 **MARYLAND ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES;**

23           **(15) ONE REPRESENTATIVE WHO IS A VETERAN, SELECTED BY THE**  
24 **MARYLAND MILITARY COALITION;**

25           **(16) ONE REPRESENTATIVE WHO IS A FORMERLY INCARCERATED**  
26 **INDIVIDUAL, SELECTED BY THE LEGAL ACTION CENTER NATIONAL H.I.R.E.**  
27 **NETWORKS;**

28           **(17) TWO AT-LARGE REPRESENTATIVES WHO ARE WOMEN IN**  
29 **AFFECTED INDUSTRIES, SELECTED BY THE GOVERNOR; AND**

30           **(18) TWO REPRESENTATIVES SELECTED BY THE MARYLAND STATE**  
31 **CHAPTER OF THE NAACP.**

1           (D) THE SECRETARY SHALL DESIGNATE THE CHAIR OF THE WORKING  
2 GROUP.

3           (E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE STAFF FOR THE WORKING GROUP.

4           (F) A MEMBER OF THE WORKING GROUP:

5               (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE  
6 WORKING GROUP; BUT

7               (2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE  
8 STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.

9           (G) THE WORKING GROUP SHALL:

10               (1) ADVISE THE COMMISSION ON ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
11 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING RELATED TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY  
12 MEASURES, RENEWABLE ENERGY, AND OTHER CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES,  
13 WITH SPECIFIC FOCUS ON TRAINING AND WORKFORCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR:

14                   (I) SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION THAT MAY BE  
15 UNDERREPRESENTED IN THE CLEAN ENERGY WORKFORCE, SUCH AS VETERANS,  
16 WOMEN, AND FORMERLY INCARCERATED INDIVIDUALS; AND

17                   (II) DISLOCATED WORKERS AFFECTED BY THE DOWNSIZING OF  
18 FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRIES;

19               (2) IDENTIFY:

20                   (I) ENERGY-INTENSIVE INDUSTRIES AND RELATED TRADES;

21                   (II) SITES OF ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES THAT MAY BE  
22 CLOSED AS A RESULT OF A TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES;

23                   (III) SECTOR-SPECIFIC IMPACTS OF THE STATE'S GREENHOUSE  
24 GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN ON THE STATE'S CURRENT WORKFORCE;

25                   (IV) AVENUES TO MAXIMIZE THE SKILLS AND EXPERTISE OF  
26 MARYLAND WORKERS IN THE NEW ENERGY ECONOMY;

27                   (V) CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES RELATED TO  
28 MINIMIZING ADVERSE EMPLOYMENT AND FINANCIAL IMPACTS ON DISPLACED  
29 WORKERS AND THEIR COMMUNITIES THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES  
30 CONDITIONED ON THE FAIR DISTRIBUTION OF COSTS AND BENEFITS; AND

1           **(VI) RESOURCES NECESSARY TO PROTECT WORKERS FROM**  
2 **ECONOMIC INSECURITY, INCLUDING OPTIONS FOR MAINTAINING OR**  
3 **SUPPLEMENTING RETIREMENT AND HEALTH CARE BENEFITS FOR DISLOCATED**  
4 **WORKERS AFFECTED BY THE DOWNSIZING OF FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRIES;**

5           **(3) ADVISE THE COMMISSION ON THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF**  
6 **CARBON LEAKAGE RISKS ON MARYLAND INDUSTRIES AND LOCAL HOST**  
7 **COMMUNITIES, INCLUDING THE IMPACT OF ANY POTENTIAL GREENHOUSE GAS**  
8 **EMISSIONS REDUCTION MEASURES ON THE COMPETITIVENESS OF MARYLAND**  
9 **BUSINESSES AND INDUSTRY; AND**

10           **(4) CONDUCT A STUDY OF:**

11           **(I) THE NUMBER OF JOBS CREATED TO COUNTER CLIMATE**  
12 **CHANGE, INCLUDING IN THE ENERGY SECTOR, BUILDING SECTOR,**  
13 **TRANSPORTATION SECTOR, AND WORKING LANDS SECTOR;**

14           **(II) THE PROJECTED INVENTORY OF JOBS NEEDED AND SKILLS**  
15 **AND TRAINING REQUIRED TO MEET FUTURE DEMAND FOR JOBS TO COUNTER**  
16 **CLIMATE CHANGE;**

17           **(III) WORKFORCE DISRUPTION DUE TO COMMUNITY CHANGES**  
18 **CAUSED BY THE TRANSITION TO A LOW-CARBON ECONOMY; AND**

19           **(IV) STRATEGIES FOR TARGETING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**  
20 **AND JOB CREATION IN FENCELINE COMMUNITIES THAT HAVE HISTORICALLY BORNE**  
21 **THE BRUNT OF HOSTING CARBON POLLUTERS.**

22           **(H) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2023, THE WORKING GROUP SHALL**  
23 **REPORT TO THE COMMISSION AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE**  
24 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE FINDINGS OF THE STUDY**  
25 **REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (G)(4) OF THIS SECTION.**

26 2-1304.

27           **(A) On or before November 15 of each year, the Commission shall report to the**  
28 **Governor and General Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government**  
29 **Article, on the status of the State's efforts to mitigate the causes of, prepare for, and adapt**  
30 **to the consequences of climate change, including future plans and recommendations for**  
31 **legislation, if any, to be considered by the General Assembly.**

32           **(B) THE REPORT DUE ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15, 2023, AND EACH**  
33 **SUBSEQUENT REPORT SHALL INCLUDE AN ANALYSIS, PREPARED BY THE**  
34 **DEPARTMENT, OF:**



- 1           **(1) A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION;**
- 2           **(2) A SCHOOL;**
- 3           **(3) A COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION;**
- 4           **(4) A SERVICE, YOUTH, OR CIVIC GROUP;**
- 5           **(5) AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION;**
- 6           **(6) A COUNTY OR MUNICIPALITY; OR**
- 7           **(7) A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT.**

8           **(H) “TRUST” MEANS THE CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST.**

9   **8–1928.**

10           **(A) THERE IS A MARYLAND CLIMATE JUSTICE CORPS PROGRAM**  
11 **ADMINISTERED BY THE TRUST, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CORPS BOARD.**

12           **(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE CORPS PROGRAM IS TO:**

13                   **(1) PROMOTE CLIMATE JUSTICE AND ASSIST THE STATE IN**  
14 **ACHIEVING ITS GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS;**

15                   **(2) PROVIDE YOUNG ADULTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES TO BECOME**  
16 **BETTER CITIZENS, STUDENTS, AND WORKERS THROUGH MEANINGFUL SERVICE TO**  
17 **THEIR COMMUNITIES AND THE STATE;**

18                   **(3) MOBILIZE, EDUCATE, AND TRAIN YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS TO**  
19 **DEPLOY CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY AND MITIGATE AND PREVENT THE**  
20 **ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN COMMUNITIES**  
21 **DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE; AND**

22                   **(4) PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS,**  
23 **ESPECIALLY DISADVANTAGED YOUTH, TO BE TRAINED FOR CAREERS THAT WILL BE**  
24 **PART OF THE EMERGING FIELD OF “GREEN–COLLAR” JOBS.**

25   **8–1929.**

26           **(A) (1) THE PURPOSE OF THE CORPS BOARD IS TO ADVISE THE TRUST IN**  
27 **THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CORPS PROGRAM.**



1           **(2) THE CORPS BOARD CONSISTS OF THE FOLLOWING 11 MEMBERS:**

2                   **(I) ONE MEMBER OF THE SENATE OF MARYLAND, APPOINTED**  
3 **BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;**

4                   **(II) ONE MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, APPOINTED**  
5 **BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;**

6                   **(III) ONE MEMBER APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF MORGAN**  
7 **STATE UNIVERSITY, TO SERVE AS A LIAISON BETWEEN THE CORPS BOARD, THE**  
8 **PRESIDENT, AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS;**

9                   **(IV) THREE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE**  
10 **CHESAPEAKE BAY TRUST, APPOINTED BY THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD; AND**

11                   **(V) FIVE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR WITH THE**  
12 **ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE, INCLUDING AT LEAST ONE INDIVIDUAL**  
13 **FROM THE NONPROFIT SECTOR WITH A BACKGROUND IN EDUCATION AND STUDENT**  
14 **SERVICE AND ONE WITH A BACKGROUND IN WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT.**

15           **(3) IF A REGULATED LOBBYIST IS APPOINTED TO SERVE AS A MEMBER**  
16 **OF THE CORPS BOARD, THE LOBBYIST IS NOT SUBJECT TO:**

17                   **(I) § 5-504(D) OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE; OR**

18                   **(II) § 5-704(F)(3) OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE AS A**  
19 **RESULT OF THAT SERVICE.**

20           **(B) A MEMBER OF THE CORPS BOARD SHALL RESIDE IN THE STATE.**

21           **(C) IN MAKING APPOINTMENTS TO THE CORPS BOARD, THE GOVERNOR**  
22 **SHALL CONSIDER:**

23                   **(1) DIVERSITY; AND**

24                   **(2) ALL GEOGRAPHIC REGIONS OF THE STATE.**

25           **(D) A MEMBER OF THE CORPS BOARD:**

26                   **(1) MAY NOT RECEIVE COMPENSATION AS A MEMBER OF THE CORPS**  
27 **BOARD; BUT**

1           **(2) IS ENTITLED TO REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES UNDER THE**  
2 **STANDARD STATE TRAVEL REGULATIONS, AS PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET.**

3           **(E) (1) THE TERM OF A MEMBER IS 4 YEARS.**

4           **(2) THE TERMS OF THE MEMBERS ARE STAGGERED AS REQUIRED BY**  
5 **THE TERMS PROVIDED FOR MEMBERS ON JULY 1, 2022.**

6           **(3) AT THE END OF A TERM, A MEMBER CONTINUES TO SERVE UNTIL**  
7 **A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND QUALIFIES.**

8           **(4) A MEMBER WHO IS APPOINTED AFTER A TERM HAS BEGUN SERVES**  
9 **ONLY FOR THE REST OF THE TERM AND UNTIL A SUCCESSOR IS APPOINTED AND**  
10 **QUALIFIES.**

11           **(F) THE APPOINTING AUTHORITY MAY REMOVE A MEMBER FOR**  
12 **INCOMPETENCE, MISCONDUCT, OR FAILURE TO PERFORM THE DUTIES OF THE**  
13 **POSITION.**

14           **(G) (1) THE CORPS BOARD SHALL DETERMINE THE TIMES AND PLACES**  
15 **OF ITS MEETINGS.**

16           **(2) THE CORPS BOARD MAY ACT WITH AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF SIX**  
17 **MEMBERS.**

18 **8-1930.**

19           **(A) FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS, THE CORPS BOARD SHALL ELECT A CHAIR**  
20 **AND A VICE CHAIR.**

21           **(B) THE TRUST SHALL PROVIDE STAFF SUPPORT FOR THE CORPS BOARD.**

22 **8-1931.**

23           **(A) (1) THE TRUST, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE CORPS BOARD, SHALL**  
24 **MAKE GRANTS TO QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS FOR THE CREATION OR EXPANSION**  
25 **OF FULL- AND PART-TIME MARYLAND CLIMATE JUSTICE CORPS PROGRAMS, THAT**  
26 **INVOLVE STUDENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS THROUGHOUT THE STATE, TO CARRY OUT**  
27 **THIS PART.**

28           **(2) CORPS PROGRAMS SHALL ENGAGE AND DEVELOP STIPEND**  
29 **VOLUNTEERS IN CLIMATE JUSTICE PROJECTS AND CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS IN**  
30 **COMMUNITIES DISPROPORTIONATELY AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE.**



1 (V) PROVIDE CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL GUIDANCE;

2 (VI) RECRUIT PARTICIPANTS WITHOUT HIGH SCHOOL  
3 DIPLOMAS; AND

4 (VII) RECRUIT RETIRED AND SEMIRETIRED SENIORS AND OTHER  
5 QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS WITH RELEVANT EXPERIENCE TO TRAIN CORPS PROGRAM  
6 VOLUNTEERS AND PARTICIPATE IN CORPS PROJECTS BY VOLUNTEERING THEIR  
7 EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS.

8 (D) A GRANT AGREEMENT REGARDING FUNDS FROM THE TRUST SHALL:

9 (1) SPECIFY THE ALLOWED USE OF THE FUNDS PROVIDED UNDER  
10 THE GRANT, INCLUDING ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES AND PERFORMANCE  
11 REQUIREMENTS;

12 (2) TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE NEED FOR EFFICIENT MULTIYEAR  
13 FUNDING AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUNDS; AND

14 (3) INCLUDE PROVISIONS FOR VERIFICATION THAT CORPS  
15 PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED AS PLANNED.

16 8-1932.

17 (A) FOR STIPEND VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS, THE TRUST AND QUALIFIED  
18 ORGANIZATIONS SHALL PRINCIPALLY RECRUIT INDIVIDUALS FOR A MINIMUM  
19 6-MONTH COMMITMENT WHO, AT THE TIME OF ENROLLMENT, ARE AT LEAST 18  
20 YEARS OLD AND UNDER THE AGE OF 25 YEARS.

21 (B) QUALIFIED ORGANIZATIONS MAY NOT UNDERTAKE A PROJECT IF THE  
22 PROJECT WOULD REPLACE REGULAR WORKERS OR DUPLICATE OR REPLACE AN  
23 EXISTING SERVICE IN THE SAME LOCALITY.

24 (C) A STIPEND VOLUNTEER:

25 (1) MAY NOT RECEIVE A SALARY AS A STIPEND VOLUNTEER; BUT

26 (2) MAY RECEIVE A STIPEND, AS DETERMINED BY THE TRUST, BASED  
27 ON THE NEEDS OF THE STIPEND VOLUNTEER AND THE LIMITS OF BUDGETARY  
28 APPROPRIATIONS.

1           **(D) (1) A STIPEND VOLUNTEER MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY PARTISAN**  
2 **POLITICAL ACTIVITY WHILE ENGAGED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES AS A**  
3 **STIPEND VOLUNTEER.**

4           **(2) THIS PART IS EFFECTIVE ONLY TO THE EXTENT THAT IT DOES NOT**  
5 **CONFLICT WITH ANY FEDERAL OR STATE LAWS OR REGULATIONS RELATING TO**  
6 **PARTICIPATION IN PARTISAN POLITICAL ACTIVITIES.**

7           **(3) A STIPEND VOLUNTEER MAY NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY**  
8 **REGULATORY OR STATUTORY ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES WHILE ENGAGED IN THE**  
9 **PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES AS A MEMBER OF THE CORPS PROGRAM.**

10 **8-1933.**

11           **(A) THE TRUST SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO QUALIFIED**  
12 **ORGANIZATIONS THAT REQUEST ASSISTANCE.**

13           **(B) THE TRUST SHALL CONVENE MARYLAND CLIMATE JUSTICE CORPS**  
14 **PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS ON A REGULAR BASIS IN ORDER TO:**

15                   **(1) PROMOTE TEAM BUILDING AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS;**

16                   **(2) DEVELOP AN UNDERSTANDING OF THE OVERALL CORPS**  
17 **PROGRAM PURPOSE;**

18                   **(3) SHARE INFORMATION ABOUT BEST PRACTICES;**

19                   **(4) RECOGNIZE EXCELLENCE; AND**

20                   **(5) PROVIDE TRAINING AND OTHER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES.**

21           **(C) IN PROVIDING TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, THE TRUST MAY**  
22 **CONTRACT WITH AN ORGANIZATION WITH A PROVEN TRACK RECORD OF**  
23 **DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING CORPS PROGRAMS, WORKING WITH THE**  
24 **CONSERVATION CORPS MODEL, AND ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE FROM**  
25 **DISADVANTAGED BACKGROUNDS.**

26 **8-1934.**

27           **(A) THE CORPS PROGRAM'S PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES SHALL MEET AN**  
28 **IDENTIFIABLE PUBLIC NEED WITHIN A COMMUNITY DISPROPORTIONATELY**  
29 **AFFECTED BY CLIMATE CHANGE, WITH SPECIFIC EMPHASIS ON PROJECTS THAT**

1 RESULT IN LONG-TERM REDUCTIONS TO GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND  
2 IMPROVEMENTS TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT.

3 (B) CLIMATE MITIGATION PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE:

4 (1) PROJECTS TO EXPAND URBAN TREE CANOPY, IMPLEMENT GREEN  
5 ROOFTOPS, AND TAKE OTHER ACTIONS TO REDUCE URBAN HEAT ISLAND EFFECTS;  
6 AND

7 (2) PROJECTS TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO CLEAN, RELIABLE  
8 TRANSPORTATION, INCLUDING THROUGH THE EXPANSION OF BIKE TRAILS AND  
9 PEDESTRIAN WALKWAYS.

10 (C) CLEAN ENERGY PROJECTS MAY INCLUDE:

11 (1) PROJECTS TO INSTALL RENEWABLE ENERGY SYSTEMS AT  
12 LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS AND SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, AND OTHER PUBLIC  
13 BUILDINGS; AND

14 (2) PROJECTS TO UNDERTAKE HOLISTIC RETROFITS OF  
15 LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS, INCLUDING WEATHERIZATION AND HEAT PUMP  
16 INSTALLATION.

17 8-1935.

18 THE TRUST AND THE CORPS BOARD SHALL SEEK FEDERAL FUNDS AND  
19 GRANTS AND DONATIONS FROM PRIVATE SOURCES TO BE MADE TO THE TRUST FOR  
20 THE PURPOSE OF LONG-TERM FUNDING OF THE CORPS PROGRAM.

21 8-1936.

22 COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES MAY:

23 (1) CONTRACT WITH THE TRUST TO CARRY OUT CORPS PROGRAM  
24 WORK;

25 (2) ASSIGN TO THE TRUST RESOURCES TO ASSIST IN ITS CORPS  
26 PROGRAM WORK, DEVELOPMENT, AND ACTIVITIES; AND

27 (3) ASSIGN FACULTY AND STAFF TO THE TRUST FOR THE PURPOSE  
28 OF CARRYING OUT OR ASSISTING WITH CORPS PROGRAMS.

29 8-1937.

1           **(A) IN DEVELOPING ITS PROGRAMS AND SEEKING FEDERAL AND STATE**  
2 **GRANTS, THE TRUST AND THE CORPS BOARD SHALL:**

3           **(1) COORDINATE ALL EFFORTS WITH THE MARYLAND**  
4 **CONSERVATION CORPS ESTABLISHED IN TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 2 OF THIS ARTICLE TO**  
5 **ENGAGE YOUNG ADULTS IN CONSERVATION SERVICE PROJECTS;**

6           **(2) COORDINATE ALL EFFORTS WITH THE CIVIC JUSTICE CORPS, AN**  
7 **ADJUNCT PROGRAM OF THE MARYLAND CONSERVATION CORPS, TO ENGAGE YOUTH**  
8 **IN CONSERVATION SERVICE PROJECTS; AND**

9           **(3) SEEK ASSISTANCE AND ADVICE FROM RELEVANT PUBLIC AND**  
10 **PRIVATE SOURCES.**

11           **(B) IN DEVELOPING CLEAN ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE AND EDUCATIONAL**  
12 **PROGRAMS, THE TRUST AND THE CORPS BOARD SHALL SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM**  
13 **AND COOPERATE WITH THE MARYLAND CLEAN ENERGY CENTER UNDER TITLE 10,**  
14 **SUBTITLE 8 OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARTICLE.**

15           **(C) IN DEVELOPING ITS VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS, THE TRUST AND THE**  
16 **CORPS BOARD SHALL SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM AND COOPERATE WITH:**

17           **(1) THE MARYLAND SERVICE CORPS AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE**  
18 **ON SERVICE AND VOLUNTEERISM UNDER TITLE 9.5, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE**  
19 **GOVERNMENT ARTICLE;**

20           **(2) THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND OTHER APPROPRIATE**  
21 **UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTOR ENTITIES TO DEVELOP**  
22 **OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN PRIVATE SECTOR ACTIVITIES,**  
23 **SUCH AS INTERNSHIP AND EXTERNSHIP PROGRAMS; AND**

24           **(3) MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS OF**  
25 **HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE, TO DEVELOP OPPORTUNITIES FOR COURSE**  
26 **CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH WHICH STUDENTS MAY EARN COURSE CREDITS**  
27 **FOR PARTICIPATION IN CORPS PROGRAMS AS AN ALTERNATIVE TO OR IN ADDITION**  
28 **TO PAYMENT OF A STIPEND.**

29 **8-1938.**

30           **(A) ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1 EACH YEAR, THE TRUST, IN CONSULTATION**  
31 **WITH THE CORPS BOARD SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE**  
32 **WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**









1           **(C) THE PURPOSE OF THE HUB IS TO SERVE AS A CLEARINGHOUSE FOR**  
2 **INFORMATION ON ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY AND ARCHITECTURAL SOLUTIONS TO**  
3 **REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM THE BUILDING SECTOR.**

4           **(D) THE HUB SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO PUBLIC AND**  
5 **PRIVATE ENTITIES TO ACHIEVE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS AND**  
6 **COMPLY WITH STATE AND LOCAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND ELECTRIFICATION**  
7 **REQUIREMENTS.**

8 9–20B–05.

9           (a) There is a Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Fund.

10           (b) The purpose of the Fund is to implement the Strategic Energy Investment  
11 Program.

12           (c) The Administration shall administer the Fund.

13           (f) **[The] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (F–5) OF THIS SECTION, THE**  
14 Administration shall use the Fund:

15           (1) to invest in the promotion, development, and implementation of:

16                   (i) cost-effective energy efficiency and conservation programs,  
17 projects, or activities, including measurement and verification of energy savings;

18                   (ii) renewable and clean energy resources;

19                   (iii) climate change programs directly related to reducing or  
20 mitigating the effects of climate change; and

21                   (iv) demand response programs that are designed to promote  
22 changes in electric usage by customers in response to:

23                           1. changes in the price of electricity over time; or

24                           2. incentives designed to induce lower electricity use at times  
25 of high wholesale market prices or when system reliability is jeopardized;

26           (2) to provide targeted programs, projects, activities, and investments to  
27 reduce electricity consumption by customers in the low-income and moderate-income  
28 residential sectors;

29           (3) to provide supplemental funds for low-income energy assistance  
30 through the Electric Universal Service Program established under § 7–512.1 of the Public

1 Utilities Article and other electric assistance programs in the Department of Human  
2 Services;

3 (4) to provide rate relief by offsetting electricity rates of residential  
4 customers, including an offset of surcharges imposed on ratepayers under § 7–211 of the  
5 Public Utilities Article;

6 (5) to provide grants, loans, and other assistance and investment as  
7 necessary and appropriate to implement the purposes of the Program as set forth in §  
8 9–20B–03 of this subtitle;

9 (6) to implement energy–related public education and outreach initiatives  
10 regarding reducing energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions;

11 (7) to provide rebates under the Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment  
12 Rebate Program established under § 9–2009 of this title;

13 (8) to provide grants to encourage combined heat and power projects at  
14 industrial facilities;

15 (9) subject to subsections (f–1) and (f–3) of this section, to provide  
16 \$7,000,000 in funding for access to capital for small, minority, women–owned, and  
17 veteran–owned businesses in the clean energy industry under § 5–1501 of the Economic  
18 Development Article, allocated in annual increments as follows:

19 (i) \$200,000 in fiscal year 2021;

20 (ii) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2022;

21 (iii) \$500,000 in fiscal year 2023;

22 (iv) \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2024; and

23 (v) \$1,200,000 in each fiscal year from 2025 through 2028;

24 (10) subject to subsections (f–2) and (f–3) of this section, to invest in  
25 pre–apprenticeship, youth apprenticeship, and registered apprenticeship programs to  
26 establish career paths in the clean energy industry under § 11–708.1 of the Labor and  
27 Employment Article, as follows:

28 (i) \$1,250,000 for grants to pre–apprenticeship jobs training  
29 programs under § 11–708.1(c)(3) of the Labor and Employment Article starting in fiscal  
30 year 2021 until all amounts are spent;

31 (ii) \$6,000,000 for grants to youth apprenticeship jobs training  
32 programs and registered apprenticeship jobs training programs under § 11–708.1(c)(5) of

1 the Labor and Employment Article starting in fiscal year 2021 until all amounts are spent;  
2 and

3 (iii) \$750,000 for the recruitment of individuals, including veterans  
4 and formerly incarcerated individuals, to the pre-apprenticeship jobs training programs  
5 and the registered apprenticeship jobs training programs under § 11-708.1 of the Labor  
6 and Employment Article starting in fiscal year 2021 until all amounts are spent;

7 (11) subject to subsection (f-4) of this section, to provide at least \$2,100,000  
8 in funding each fiscal year to the Maryland Energy Innovation Fund established under §  
9 10-835 of the Economic Development Article; and

10 (12) to pay the expenses of the Program.

11 **(F-5) FUNDING PROVIDED UNDER SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION MAY BE**  
12 **USED FOR A PROJECT THAT USES FOSSIL FUEL ONLY IF IT CAN BE DEMONSTRATED**  
13 **THAT THE LIFECYCLE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FOR THE PROJECT ARE LESS**  
14 **THAN AN ALL-ELECTRIC ALTERNATIVE.**

15 SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

16 (a) A Position Identification Number (PIN) shall be created in the Maryland  
17 Energy Administration for the Coordinator of the Climate Transition and Clean Energy  
18 Hub.

19 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that, with the exception of the new  
20 Coordinator position and associated salary, the Maryland Energy Administration shall  
21 handle the responsibilities of the Climate Transition and Clean Energy Hub with existing  
22 resources.

23 SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

24 (a) (1) The Public Service Commission shall establish a process for gas  
25 companies and electric companies to develop utility transition plans to achieve a structured  
26 and just transition to near-zero greenhouse gas emissions from the building sector.

27 (2) The process established under this section shall provide for stakeholder  
28 review of utility transition plans.

29 (3) The Commission shall amend or reject a utility plan that does not meet  
30 the criteria specified in subsection (b) of this section.

31 (b) (1) The gas utility transition plans developed under this section shall  
32 include:

1 (i) appropriate gas system investments and divestments for a  
2 shrinking customer base and reductions in gas throughput in the range of 50 to 100% by  
3 2045;

4 (ii) a comprehensive equity strategy to enable low-income and  
5 middle-income households to improve energy efficiency and electrification affordably;

6 (iii) regulatory, legislative, and other policy recommendations to  
7 achieve a structured and just transition of the gas system and infrastructure;

8 (iv) operational practices to meet current customer needs and  
9 maintain safe and reliable service while minimizing infrastructure investments;

10 (v) assessment of existing gas infrastructure and options for  
11 contraction; and

12 (vi) alternative models for the gas utility's long-term role, business  
13 model, ownership structure, and regulatory compact, as part of the structured transition.

14 (2) The electric utility transition plans developed under this section shall  
15 include:

16 (i) electric system investments for a highly electrified buildings  
17 sector;

18 (ii) ratepayer protections, especially for low-income and  
19 middle-income residents;

20 (iii) incentives to facilitate the transition to a highly electrified  
21 buildings sector; and

22 (iv) demand management solutions for reducing winter peak  
23 electricity demand.

24 SECTION 6. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take  
25 effect June 1, 2022. It shall remain effective for a period of 8 years and 1 month and, at the  
26 end of June 30, 2030, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General  
27 Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

28 SECTION 7. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section  
29 6 of this Act, this Act shall take effect June 1, 2022.