



MARYLAND LEAGUE  
OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

# Hot List – SENATE

WEEK of March 31, 2008

The **Maryland League of Conservation Voters** is pleased to present the “Hot List” – a detailed list of the environmental community’s highest priority legislation for *this week*. Every Tuesday, we will e-mail and distribute it by hand to your office. We hope you find this communication helpful and instructive as you tackle important environmental bills this session. If you have any questions please contact Cindy Schwartz at [cschwartz@mdlcv.org](mailto:cschwartz@mdlcv.org)

**PLEASE NOTE: THIS INFORMATION IS ACCURATE AS OF 10:30 AM ON APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>.**

## FLOOR ACTION

**SB 205: EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act of 2008 and**

**SB 268: Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative - Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Program**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ SB 205 requires Maryland to reduce its per capita energy use 15 percent by 2015 and SB 268 ensures Maryland Energy Administration funding through the auction of carbon credits
- ◆ On average, consumers save two to three dollars for every dollar invested in energy efficiency



**SB 209: Renewable Portfolio Standard Percentage Requirements - Acceleration**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ Maryland should put itself ahead of the curve on creating clean energy industries
- ◆ This will make our electricity system more reliable through diversifying our energy sources, promote economic development, and clean up the environment

**HB 1337: Maryland Clean Energy Center**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ This bill establishes a Clean Energy Center in Maryland
- ◆ Clean Energy Centers have been helpful in a number of other states in fostering creativity and development of clean, renewable energy and serving as a clean energy business incubator

## COMMITTEE ACTION

**HB 835: Mercury Switch Removal from Vehicles**

Environmental Matters Committee – **HEARING ON TUESDAY, APRIL 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ Would require the removal and recycling of mercury-containing switches from vehicles, reducing a sizable source of mercury in Maryland

**HB 117: Real Property - Installation of Solar Panels - Clarification and Solar Easement**

Judicial Proceedings Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ HB 117 removes barriers to residential installation of small-scale solar energy systems
- ◆ Eliminating this hurdle is key to get these solar projects off the ground
- ◆ Greater use of clean, renewable energy like solar will help Maryland curb global warming emissions

*Over, please*

## **HB 1253: Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area Protection Program - Administrative and Enforcement Provisions**

Education Health and Environmental Affairs – **ALREADY HEARD**

### **POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ Revises the Critical Area Act to provide the Critical Area Commission with the tools it needs to better administer and enforce the law, resulting in reduced sediment and contaminated runoff, cleaner water, and improved habitat for the Bays' fish and crabs



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For more than 25 years, the **Maryland League of Conservation Voters** has been the **independent political voice for the environment** in our state. Maryland LCV is dedicated to making environmental protection and restoration a top priority for Maryland's elected officials, appointed leaders, candidates and voters. The Maryland League of Conservation Voters **advocates for sound conservation policies, works to get pro-environment candidates elected, and holds elected officials accountable for their votes and actions.**

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