



THE CLIMATE SOLUTIONS NOW ACT



Bill SB 414/HB 583

Sponsored by Delegate Stein and Senator Pinsky

60%

below 2006
greenhouse
gas levels
by 2030

The bill also:

- calls on the state to be a leader by transitioning the state bus fleet from diesel powered buses to zero emission buses to address the state's leading source of greenhouse gas emissions, the transportation sector.
- provides several low cost mitigation policies, including tree plantings in underserved urban areas and creating a tax credit for community solar projects.
- calls on the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities to identify communities disproportionately affected by climate change, develop specific recommendations to address environmental justice concerns, reduce emissions and build climate equity and resilience in affected communities, and determine the percentage of state funds spent on climate change that must go to environmental justice communities.
- creates a work group to help transition and retrain workers who are impacted by the transition to clean energy.

The **Climate Solutions Now Act** is a comprehensive approach to reducing the impacts of climate change on our environment and communities.

The bill requires Maryland to **reduce its 2006 levels of greenhouse gas emissions by 60% by 2030 and achieve net-zero emissions by 2045**. These goals are consistent with science and the Paris Climate Agreement.

Helping Maryland's Overburdened Communities

Climate Solutions Now has significant implications for Maryland's low-wealth communities and communities of color that are disproportionately impacted by pollution and the emissions that cause climate change. The bill will not only reduce these emissions, but will also ensure that a portion of state climate funds are spent on environmental justice communities and help create jobs at all levels. The provision outlining investments in environmental justice communities is based on the New York Climate and Community Investment Act, which is widely considered the gold standard of state environmental justice policies.



Plant 5 million trees by 2030 with 10% (500,000) to be planted in urban areas



Increase energy efficiency through the EMPOWER Program from 2% to 3% a year & Fund state bus and vehicle fleet electrification



Require air monitoring of methane at landfills, Require emission reductions from retrofitted large buildings & Require new state buildings to be net neutral, with exceptions for schools

The **Climate Solutions Now** bill is similar to the *Climate Solutions Act of 2020*, but has been changed to streamline and strengthen the provisions.

The Climate Solutions Now Act will rebuild Maryland's economy, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and ensure that Maryland's overburdened communities are prioritized.

For more information, contact Kristen Harbeson, kharbseon@mdlcv.org or visit www.mdlcv.org



MARYLAND LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS