



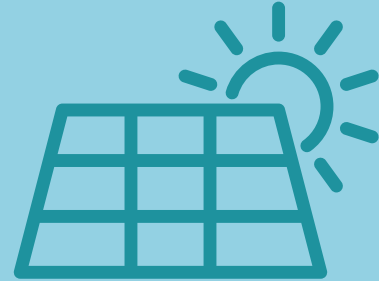
# 2024 Legislative Priority

## Solar Incentives

and the

## “Brighter Tomorrow Act”

HB 1435 / SB 783



## BACKGROUND

Despite Maryland's Renewable Portfolio Standard mandating a 14.5% solar energy carve-out by 2030, the state fell short of this goal in 2022. To achieve the ambitious aim of 100% clean energy by 2035, the "Brighter Tomorrow Act" proposes a framework to overcome barriers in solar development, focusing on strategic investment and permitting for rooftop, community, and solar projects. Endorsed by the Solar Incentives Task Force, this legislation seeks to optimize state incentives for solar energy development on preferred sites such as rooftops, parking lots, and brownfields.

- Maryland's current state incentive structure for solar projects may not effectively support preferred development sites, necessitating a strategic overhaul.
- Co-locating solar projects with viable agriculture or on developed land can provide multiple benefits, including reduced transmission costs, shade for cars or grazing animals, and a diversified income stream for farmers.

Accelerating Maryland's solar energy adoption through strategic incentives to meet and exceed clean energy targets.

## WHAT THE “BRIGHTER TOMORROW ACT” WILL DO

- Extends and creates personal property tax exemptions for small-scale community solar projects and non-residential rooftop/parking canopy installations.
- Establishes a consistent Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) structure for ground-mounted solar installations and raises the Aggregate Net Meter cap.
- Implements a short-term Solar Renewable Energy Credit (SREC) multiplier as a bridge to long-term reforms.

## WHY IT'S IMPORTANT FOR MARYLAND

This legislation is crucial for Maryland to realign its solar energy incentives towards more sustainable and community-friendly development practices. By focusing on preferred siting and extending benefits to low-and-moderate-income households, the "Brighter Tomorrow Act" ensures Maryland's solar energy expansion is equitable, economically viable, and aligns with the state's climate goals.



The Maryland League of Conservation Voters educates and activates people to take equitable and just political actions for clean water, healthy air and climate-resilient communities.