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# Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act

HB0516

Sponsor: Delegate Diana M. Fennell



The destructive impacts of climate change to Maryland's lands, history, and economy, as well as to the health, traditions, and prospects of its people, now constitute an existential climate crisis. The Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act (CCEJ) addresses these threats to Maryland with transformative, market-based solutions.

The CCEJ Act incentivizes the reduction of fossil fuel emissions, and its passage would put Maryland on a commonsense, practical pathway towards a sustainable, vibrant economy. It will generate billions of dollars for investment in clean energy infrastructure, while providing protective benefits to Maryland's trade-exposed small businesses and its most vulnerable populations: low- and moderate-income households.

## How the Climate Crisis and Environmental Justice Act works

### Protects the public health, economic well-being, and natural treasures of the State

by supporting the new statewide, greenhouse gas emission reduction goals set by the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022:

60% by 2031

100% by 2045

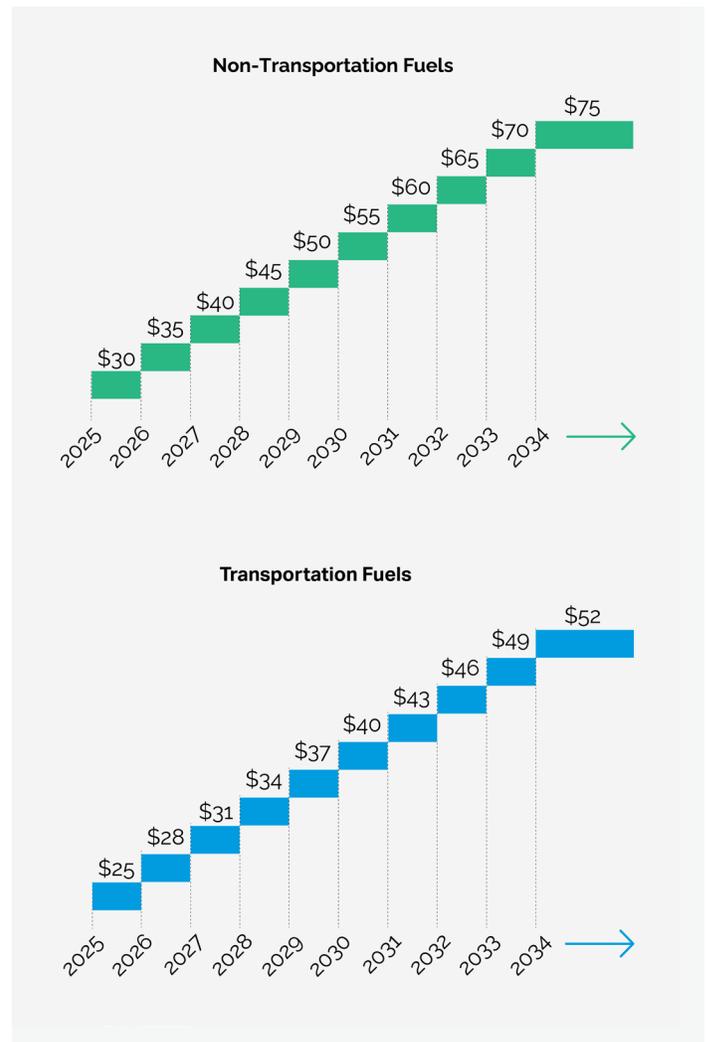
Zero emissions after 2045 using 2006 emission levels as a baseline

### Establishes two types of fossil fuel fees

that include a polluter pays, no-pass through provision:

**Non-transportation fuel fee (Building Heat)** starts at \$30/ton, increases \$5/ton per year, and is capped at \$75/ton until the target is met.

**Transportation fuel fee (Gas)** starts at \$25/ton, increases \$3/ton per year, and is capped at \$52/ton until the target is met.



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## Establishes revenue for two separate funds

for green infrastructure, and household and employer benefits

### Benefits Fund

50% of the total revenue will go to the Climate Crisis Benefits Fund <sup>a</sup> directed to low- and moderate-income households and energy-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) businesses to protect them from financial harm.

**80%** of the money in the Benefit Fund directed to low- and moderate-income household Benefits

**20%** of the money in the Benefit Fund directed to EITE business Benefits

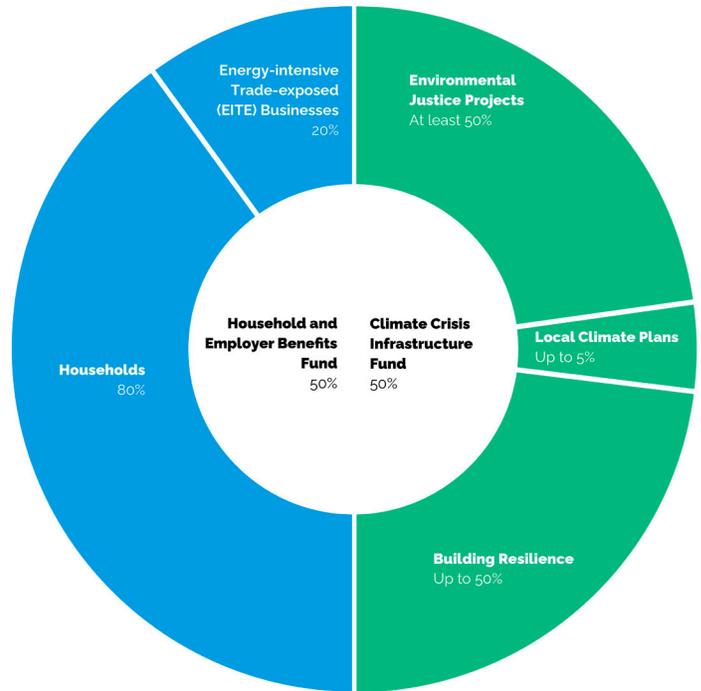
### Infrastructure Fund

50% of the total revenue will go to the Climate Crisis Infrastructure Fund <sup>a</sup> to invest in initiatives that improve the health and welfare of the citizens of the State.

**At least 50%** of the Infrastructure account shall be invested in projects that are directly located within and provide meaningful benefits to environmental justice communities.

**Up to 5%** of the Infrastructure account shall provide technical assistance, capacity, and planning tools to county and municipal governments to develop qualified local climate plans and investment proposals.

**Up to 50%** of the Infrastructure account shall be disbursed to qualified county and municipal governments for projects to mitigate GHG's and build resilience.



### Support the CCEJA and become a member of Rebuild Maryland

Sign our resolutions of support.

[Signup Today](#)

[www.rebuildmdcoalition.org/join-our-movement](http://www.rebuildmdcoalition.org/join-our-movement)



Rebuild Maryland Coalition is a diverse group of stakeholders working to establish practical solutions to **reduce harmful air pollutants** such as greenhouse gas emissions; **hold polluters responsible** for the damage they have caused; and **put frontline communities first** while protecting the health, economic well-being, and natural treasures in Maryland.

### Reach Out

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