



February 7, 2017

The Honorable Edward J. Kasemeyer
Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West, Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 174 – Income Tax Credit - Clean Energy Production - Qualified Energy Resources (Maryland Clean Energy Incentive Act) – Oppose

Dear Senator Kasemeyer:

Senate Bill 174 eliminates Agricultural renewable energy processes from qualifications for Maryland's Clean Energy Tax Credit. Instead the bill redefines "qualified energy resources" to mean wind, solar energy, or marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy. In current law "qualified energy resources" includes: forest-related resources, waste pellets, crats, and dunnage, landscape or right-of-way trimmings, and agricultural sources, including, but not limited to, orchard tree crops, vineyard, grain, legumes, sugars, and other crop by-products or residues. It also includes Waste to Energy projects (including anaerobic digesters).

This Bill will hurt small farms that do not have the resources to produce these new "qualified energy resources", yet are producing the other resources as qualified under the current law.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 560 members, supports this bill and asks that you give it a favorable report

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Justin Ready
Delegate Susan W. Krebs