2023

NAACP MARYLAND STATE CONFERENCE MATHIAS DE SOUSA ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE

LEGISLATIVE NIGHT: THE HBCU EXPERIENCE

HOSTED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

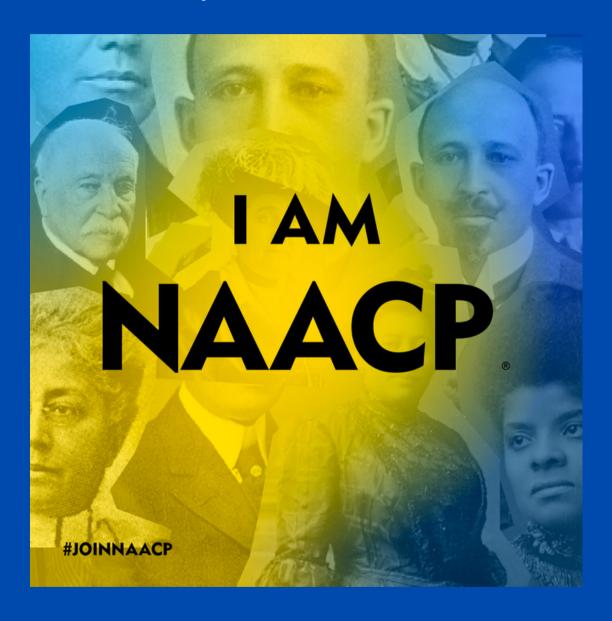
FEBRUARY 15, 2023 ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

Mathias de Sousa



Matthias de Sousa, an indentured servant, was the only Black person to serve in the colonial Maryland legislature. As such he is the first African American to sit in any legislative body in what would become the United States.

Celebrating 114 Years of Activism



Sunday, February 12, 2023, marked the NAACP's 114th Founders Day. This month, we celebrate 114 years of dedication, resilience, and impact. Since 1909, the NAACP has been committed to fighting for change and advancing justice to help Black America thrive in business, economics, and more.

We are stronger TOGETHER!

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Dear Friends,

Greetings and welcome to our first Mathias de Sousa HBCU Environmental and Climate Justice Legislative Night! We are happy to share this event with you.

These are exciting times in Maryland politics. This is the first time in seventy-plus years that we have had a complete turnover in executive political leadership – a new Governor, Attorney General, and Comptroller. We have elected the first Black Governor, Black Attorney General, and the first woman Comptroller, in the history of Maryland politics. We have a democratic majority in both the House and Senate — a legislature truly reflective of the political majority and demographics of the state.

These are also trying times. Our State has the dubious distinction of being the home to counties with the highest rates of breast cancer amongst men and women **in the country**, in Calvert County; the highest rates of death related to air quality **in the country**, n Baltimore City; and home to one of the top ten superfund sites **in the country**, in Prince George's County. We have much work to do to turn this around. And there is no better time than now. With sweeping Federal and State legislation, we have the national and

state support to combat these ills. The *Inflation Reduction Act* and Maryland's *Climate Solutions Now Act* are real gamechangers at the forefront of combatting climate change.

Our Governor has declared, "No one left behind." This sentiment embodies our efforts to reach out continually to our members and fellow constituents to ensure their voice is heard and that deeds and actions follow words. Our work includes building a foundation of support to protect and execute the will of the people and protect the climate, land, and inhabitants thereupon. *People. Power. Planet.* is the mantra of our Environmental and Climate Justice advocacy.

Our most valuable resource is our human capital, specifically our youth. Our youth are a powerful body. And unlike any time since the 1960s, our youth voices and actions are at the forefront of the social justice zeitgeist, demanding change for equity. From *Black Lives Matter* to the Flint, Jackson, and Baltimore water crises, our youth are leading the call to action with a stealthy command of social media and the ability to organize, which is galvanizing our nation to action in the name of justice! Our HBCU students will solve the problems my generation, and those before mine, created. We need their brilliance to lead in the industries that will save this Nation and the planet. They are our future. We must equip them with all the tools in our arsenal to mount the challenges and defeat the ills that plague our socio-political psyche and planet.

Thank you for acknowledging the need for awareness of our legislative process and priorities. We are grateful you are here to learn, share, and grow. We hope you enjoy this evening's event and will work with us to make it a resounding success. With your continued support, we can make Maryland a bigger and brighter jewel in our Nation's crown and lead by example, not just words.

I wish you peace, prosperity, and a purposeful Black History Month.

Respectfully,

Willie Flowers, President

NAACP Maryland State Conference

Illis Flowers

PROGRAM FLOW

NAACP MARYLAND STATE CONFERENCE MATHIAS DE SOUSA ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE LEGISLATIVE NIGHT 2023

WELCOME AND STATEMENT OF OCCASION

OPENING REMARKS

Staci Hartwell, Chair NAACP MSC Environmental and Climate Justice Committee

Willie Flowers, President

NAACP Maryland State Conference

Martin Mitchell, Chair

NAACP MSC Political Action Committee

Jheanelle Wilkens (District 20), Chair Maryland Legislative Black Caucus

Josh Tulkin, Premier Sponsor, Director,

Sierra Club - Maryland Chapter

ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE COMMITTEE LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES 2023

CLIMATE, LABOR, AND ENVIRONMENTAL EQUITY ACT

2023

Katlyn Schmitt, Senior Policy Analyst Center for Progressive Reform

RECLAIM RENEWABLE ENERGY

LMI ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND OFFSHORE WIND

Delegate Vaughn Stewart

Delegate Lorig Charkoudian

ENERGY SAVINGS ACT (EMPOWER) Josh Tulkin

MARYLAND THE BEAUTIFUL Delegate Dana Stein

Q&A All

CLOSING AND CALL TO ACTION

Staci Hartwell

DINNER AND RAFFLE All

Welcome!!

About Mathias de Sousa HBCU Legislative Night Atwo-part series

Legislative Night 2023 is the NAACP Maryland State Conference's inaugural educational event focusing on one of the preeminent issues of our time: environmental and climate justice. Tonight we will discuss the primary climate and environmental issues in our State and dialogue with legislators and subject matter experts about the importance of protecting vulnerable communities from continued harm through the legislative process.



HBCU Legislative Night Planning Committee: from Top, l. to r., Nicole Jackson, NAACP Advisor and Member; Staci Hartwell, Chair, NAACP MSC ECJ Committee; Brittany Baker, NAACP Consultant; Sandra Green, Coppin State Univ.; Tekeya Peterson, Morgan State Univ.; Jabari Walker, Bowie State Univ.

We are delighted to use this event as a forum to empower HBCU students from around the State. We have student attendees from every school: Bowie State University, Coppin University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, and Morgan State University. In order to support student attendance, we have provided free transportation for them to and from the event.

Tonight's event will include many fun elements along with a dinner reception and dialogue. The NAACP Maryland State Conference is providing commemorative t-shirts for students. We also have a number of exciting raffle prizes for student attendees including a Nintendo Switch OLED, Apple AirPods Pro, a JBL Bluetooth speaker, and two VIP tickets to the DMV's own Broccoli City Festival 2023 and more!

(continued)

Our HBCU Students are the future of which Dr. King dreamed.



This event is a two-part series. Before tonight's in-person Legislative Night, we hosted a virtual event to lay a solid foundation for the students. The above photo is one of three screenshots of the HBCU student attendees and presenters. We partnered with the *Maryland League of Conservation Voters* (MD LCV) for the virtual event. The session included an overview of the central tenants of environmental and climate justice delivered by Dr. Anas Askar from Bowie State University, a dis-

(continued)

Mathias de Sousa HBCU Legislative Night A two-part series

cussion of the legislative process and best practices for advocacy within the process with Kristen Harbeson, and dialogue about grassroots organizing with Neka Duckett-Randolph, from *Black Millennials 4 Flint*. The students also heard a presentation about citizen science and *Forest Bathing*. This Japanese meditative practice encourages people to connect with nature via all five senses, presented by one of our event partners, *Capital Nature*.

We also want to demonstrate to students how good laws lead to good jobs. There is a tremendous opportunity for great careers and businesses in the renewable energy space. We want to share with students how the laws that are made today lead to good jobs tomorrow. In particular, wind energy and solar. Wind and solar are among the fastest-growing segments in the industry. Be sure to view our wind energy video, featured further in the program.

For tonight's event, In an effort to specifically support diverse communities, we have partnered with minority-owned businesses to help support the event - *Baltimore Compost*

Collective, a youth-empowered, Blackowned compost organization, and Bedazzled Treats, LLC, a Black woman-owned catering company.

Most importantly, we are delighted you could join us as a part of this inspiring, empowering event. With your continued support, we can bring more meaningful programming to our community. Knowledge is power.



Celebrating History

Our Venue

Asbury United Methodist Church was established in 1830 as the African Methodist Episcopal Church. It has played a significant role in the Black community in Annapolis and has been an important site for political activism. During the civil rights movement, it served as a gathering place for rallies and meetings and hosted key leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Congressman John Lewis. It is a great honor to host this event at this historical site.



Order your commemorative t-shirt today! While supplies last!



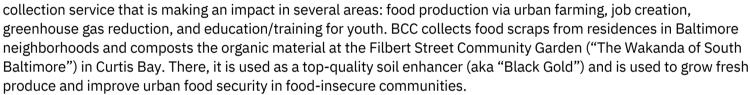
Proceeds to benefit NAACP MSC

Programming
visit naacpmaryland.org

Thanks to the Baltimore Compost Collective for helping making this a zero-waste event



The Baltimore Compost Collective (BCC) is a small-scale, Black-owned, and youth-led compost



BCC is also a youth entrepreneurship program that employs local teenagers and trains them in workforce skills, food access programming, and community-scale composting. Youth workers are gaining education and are guided via hands-on experience to manage a small-scale composting operation and its expansion. Youth are involved in the broader fight for Environmental Justice, one that includes efforts to clean the City's air by shutting down local incinerators and reducing the amount of organic material that is burned and sent to landfills. Mr. Marvin Hayes, BCC Executive Director, notes that one of the main goals in expanding urban composting, specifically in Baltimore, is to starve the incinerators, enrich the soil, and feed the community!Learn more about the fight to starve the incinerators -Residents in South Baltimore are fighting to 'starve' their nearby Bresco incinerator.



Did you know...

- More than 50% of municipal garbage set out at the curb is compostable.
- Composting enhances soil and protects watersheds.
- Compost can filter urban stormwater pollutants by an outstanding 60% 95% when added to the soil.
- Composting creates jobs! On a per-ton basis, compost alone employs 2X more workers than landfills and 4X more than incinerators.



Baltimore Compost Collective collective diverts, at a minimum and on average, 12 metric tonnes of organic material per year (230kg per week/12,000kg per year). This equates to roughly 24 Metric tonnes avoided in C02e emissions per year. BCC is further reducing its emissions by being the first food scrap collection service to utilize an electric fleet of YubaCargo bicycles to assist in the collection process(see the Yuba fleet in action). See BCC in action - Recycling Food Waste in Baltimore!

Contact:

Marvin Hayes, Executive Director (443) 938-7805

Legislative Prozities 2023

The Climate, Labor, and Environmental Equity Act

HB 840, SB 743

House Sponsor: Delegate Regina Boyce

Senate Sponsors: Senator Michael A. Jackson and Senator

Karen Lewis Young

This legislation ensures key state agencies and their decision-making processes meaningfully asses a proposed action for its impact on the climate, workers, jobs, and overburdened communities. It creates communications channels between the Maryland Department of Environment, permit applicants, and underserved/overburdened communities. It is designed to deter decisions which will negatively affedct these communities.

LMI Energy-Efficiency

<u>HB 169, SB 144</u>

House Sponsor: Delegate Lorig Charkoudian Senate Sponsor: Senator Brian Feldman

This legislation coordinates and consolidates a range of federal and state funding sources for energy efficiency improvements for low and moderate income (LMI) Marylanders, enables state funded energy efficiency audits for low-income homes, and increases Empower and state funding for LMI households to make energy efficiency improvements such as new insulation, better windows, and LED light bulbs. Passing this legislation will support households to lower their energy bills and have healthier home environments.

Reclaim Renewable Energy

HB 718, SB 590

House Sponsor: Delegate Vaughn Stewart, many co-

sponsors

Senate Sponsor: Senator Karen Lewis Young

This legislation alters the definition of "Tier 1 renewable sources" by excluding energy derived from trash incineration, factory farm waste, and woody biomass from being eligible for inclusion in the renewable energy portfolio standard. Passing this bill would be a big win for environmental justice groups who have been advocating for this change for years.

POWER Act

HB 793, SB 781

House Sponsor: Delegate Lorig Charkoudian, many co-sponsors

In order to facilitate a swift and thorough transition to clean energy, Maryland must prioritize creating the political and economic landscape for further clean energy investments. This bill sets an offshore wind goal of 8.5 GW by 2031, initiates a state process to build coordinated transmission infrastructure, and invests in the full-build out of the existing offshore wind lease areas.

for more information, click the bill number or visit the MarylandGeneral Assembly <u>website</u>

Legislative Priozities 2023

Maryland, the Beautiful

HB 631, SB 470

House Sponsor: Delegate Dana Stein

Senate Sponsor: Senator Sarah Elfreth, many co-sponsors

One of the most meaningful ways to sequester carbon, support biodiversity, and preserve vital ecosystem services is to preserve critical habits. In response to President Biden's Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad, this bill aims to permanently protect 40% of Maryland's lands by 2040.

Sustainable Buildings

HB6, SB92

House Sponsor: Delegate Terri Hill Senate Sponsor: Senator Clarence Lam

This legislation coordinates and consolidates a range of federal and state funding sources for energy efficiency improvements for low-income Marylanders, enables state funded energy efficiency audits for low-income homes, and increases Empower and state funding for low-income households to make energy efficiency improvements such as new insulation, better windows, and LED light bulbs.

Permanent Community Solar

HB 908, SB 613

House Sponsor: Delegate Luke Clippinger, many cosponsors

Senate Sponsor: Senator Ben Brooks,

many co-sponsors

The Community Solar Pilot Program is a mechanism for low- and moderate-income customers to access the advantages of renewable energy. The program has many benefits including allowing renters to contract for solar energy with the same benefits as rooftop owners. The pilot program expires in December 2024. This bill makes the program permanent.

Energy Savings Act

HB 904, SB 689

House Sponsor: Delegate Lily Qi, many co-sponsors Senate Sponsor: Senator Karen Lewis Youn

This legislation builds on Maryland's successful EMPOWER program. It alters the goals of the program to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing electrification- among others. It also helps people choose more affordable and healthy cooking options.

for more information, click the bill number or visit the MarylandGeneral Assembly <u>website</u>

Organize and Take Action

Jemez Principles for Democratic Organizing

Meeting hosted by Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice (SNEEJ), Jemez, New Mexico, Dec. 1996

Activists meet on Globalization

On December 6-8, 1996, forty people of color and European-American representatives met in Jemez, New Mexico, for the "Working Group Meeting on Globalization and Trade." The Jemez meeting was hosted by the Southwest Network for Environmental and Economic Justice with the intention of hammering out common understandings between participants from different cultures, politics and organizations. The following "Jemez Principles" for democratic organizing were adopted by the participants.

#1 Be Inclusive

If we hope to achieve just societies that include all people in decision-making and assure that all people have an equitable share of the wealth and the work of this world, then we must work to build that kind of inclusiveness into our own movement in order to develop alternative policies and institutions to the treaties policies under neoliberalism.

This requires more than tokenism, it cannot be achieved without diversity at the planning table, in staffing, and in coordination. It may delay achievement of other important goals, it will require discussion, hard work, patience, and advance planning. It may involve conflict, but through this conflict, we can learn better ways of working together. It's about building alternative institutions, movement building, and not compromising out in order to be accepted into the anti-globalization club.

#2 Emphasis on Bottom-Up Organizing

To succeed, it is important to reach out into new constituencies, and to reach within all levels of leadership and membership base of the organizations that are already involved in our networks. We must be continually building and strengthening a base which provides our credibility, our strategies, mobilizations, leadership development, and the energy for the work we must do daily.

#3 Let People Speak for Themselves

We must be sure that relevant voices of people directly affected are heard. Ways must be provided for spokespersons to represent and be responsible to the affected constituencies. It is important for organizations to clarify their roles, and who they represent, and to assure accountability within our structures.

#4 Work Together In Solidarity and Mutuality

Groups working on similar issues with compatible visions should consciously act in solidarity, mutuality and support each other's work. In the long run, a more significant step is to incorporate the goals and values of other groups with your own work, in order to build strong relationships. For instance, in the long run, it is more important that labor unions and community economic development projects include the issue of environmental sustainability in their own strategies, rather than just lending support to the environmental organizations. So communications, strategies and resource sharing is critical, to help us see our connections and build on these.

#5 Build Just Relationships Among Ourselves

We need to treat each other with justice and respect, both on an individual and an organizational level, in this country and across borders. Defining and developing "just relationships" will be a process that won't happen overnight. It must include clarity about decision-making, sharing strategies, and resource distribution. There are clearly many skills necessary to succeed, and we need to determine the ways for those with different skills to coordinate and be accountable to one another.

#6 Commitment to Self-Transformation

As we change societies, we must change from operating on the mode of individualism to community-centeredness. We must "walk our talk." We must be the values that we say we're struggling for and we must be justice, be peace, be community.

marylandclimatepartners

Climate, Labor, and Environmental Equity Act

Bill Sponsors: Senator Michael A. Jackson/Delegate Regina T. Boyce

Bill Numbers: SB 743 / HB 840

Passing the Climate Labor and Environmental Equity Act will:

- Prevent continued environmental racism and injustice in Maryland;
- Ensure that key state agencies in Maryland are held accountable (through reporting) to the state's climate, environmental justice, and labor goals;
- Require thorough planning, evaluation, reporting, and mitigation of negative impacts on underserved and overburdened communities before polluters are permitted to operate;
- Projects will be evaluated for their cumulative impacts on a community, how they contribute to or mitigate climate change, and how they impact workers, jobs, and property values.
- Foster measurable communication between the Maryland Department of the Environment, Environmental permit applicants, and underserved and overburdened communities;
- Allow Marylanders to receive regular notifications regarding environmental permits that may have a negative impact on their health and well-being;
- Deter state decisions near overburdened and underserved communities, such as :
 - · Approving new construction of harmful facilities or infrastructure;
 - Approving permits that allow for increases in greenhouse gas emissions;
 - · Approving a new highway or highway expansion; and
 - Approving a project or development that won't benefit Maryland workers.

Why the Climate Labor and Environmental Equity Act is needed:

- For generations, the state of Maryland has made decisions about locating harmful, unhealthy, and potentially dangerous projects in ways that have overburdened many communities in the state, es pecially communities of color and low-income communities. This has damaged those communities and inhibited their residents from leading safe, healthy, and productive lives.
- Implementing the Climate, Labor, and Environmental Equity Act would ensure that Maryland complies with EPA's new <u>environmental justice principles for permitting</u>.
- The Maryland legislature has until April 10, 2023, to pass the Climate Labor and Environmental Equity Act. Maryland communities cannot wait any longer for these past-due considerations and protections.

Take Action! CLICK HERE

The hyperlink can also be found here: tinyurl.com/3x8csh6y or scan the QR code to the right.

Take Otton!!

THE FOLLOWING IS AN "ACTION ALERT"

PLEASE DO THIS TODAY!

Let your voice be heard!

Please join us in this Action Alert to notify our elected leaders of the importance of the Climate, Labor, and Environmental Equity Act 2023.

It's easy using the tool on our website! Simply scan the QR code to send a personalized letter to your legislators today, or click here.

Thank you!

The campaign can also be found here: https://www.naacpmdecj.org/take-action

I SUPPORT THE CLIMATE LABOR & ENVIRONMENTAL ACT OF 2023...



#EndEnvironmentalRacism #MarylandEquity4All Go to: tinyurl.com/3x8csh6y



We Support the **POWER Act for more** Offshore Wind in Maryland

The POWER Act is supported by a unique coalition of labor unions, consumer rights advocates, justice groups, climate focused non-profits, and energy companies. By creating jobs, protecting ratepayers, and reducing pollution, this legislation unites Marylanders in support of offshore wind.



The POWER Act will:

Strengthen labor standards for offshore wind manufacturing, installation, and maintenance



Set an ambitious, non-binding goal for 8.5 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2031



Create a shared transmission infrastructure to reduce the cost and environmental impact of future offshore wind projects



Precure approximately one additional gigawatt of offshore wind power while protecting ratepayers





















We can achieve greater energy savings, lower energy bills, and deliver even more public health and environmental benefits by building on the success of the EmPower program and passing the Energy Savings Act of 2023.

What's in the Bill

- Stops incentives for fossil fuel appliances and heating, maximizes federal efficiency incentives, and creates new incentives for electrification, efficient electric appliances, and home heating.
- Sets clear performance targets, climate benchmarks, incentives and penalties for utilities to ensure the program is reducing Maryland's overall energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.
- Builds on the successful EmPOWER rebates and resources for energy audits and weatherization.
- Helps expand access for low-income households to state and federal funds for energy efficiency and whole-home retrofits including lead removal, mold remediation, asbestos removal, and building improvements by establishing a multilingual community outreach specialist program.
- Reaches more Marylanders by expanding the network of contractors eligible to participate in improvements through the EmPOWER program. Provides ongoing education, outreach, training and certification for contractors to deliver services and ensure Marylanders see the most benefits.
- Delivers the majority of savings directly to Maryland households to help lower utility bills by ensuring 85% of energy savings happen in the home, where ratepayers benefit most.

Supported by:



































Building on a History of Success

The EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act of 2008 created the EmPOWER program to incentivize energy efficiency and conservation efforts. EmPOWER has improved energy efficiency, which has saved utility customers money, reduced pollution, and helped protect the environment. The Energy Savings Act of 2023 will build on this legacy of success to deliver even more savings for Marylanders.

Since 2008, EmPOWER Maryland has:

Created savings of over \$12.7 billion from an investment of \$3.5 billion in efficiency.

Reduced greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of at least 9.6 million metric tons of carbon dioxide, equal to taking 2 million cars off the road for a year.

Provided Marylanders with energy audits and weatherization, rebates for lighting, appliances, and weatherization, and provided businesses with discounts and incentives for energy efficient upgrades.

The Climate Solutions Now Act directed EmPOWER be updated to include greenhouse gas reduction goals and the Public Service Commission (PSC) recommends that the General Assembly enact legislation to do so

Why Energy Efficiency Matters

- Reducing costs for consumers and ratepayers. By reducing the amount of energy people consume, and reducing the amount of infrastructure needed to provide that energy, efficiency improvements help ratepayers pay less on their utility bills.
- Protecting public health by reducing air pollution from burning fossil fuels. Burning fossil fuels,
 both indoors and out, produces air pollution that can cause a range of health problems, from damage to the lungs and heart to cancer to mental health and cognitive issues.
- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions. By reducing fossil fuel use in buildings and from power plants, energy efficiency reduces greenhouse gas emissions and thus helps fight global warming and climate damage and get the state closer to our emissions reductions goals.
- Making it easier to transition to renewable energy. By reducing the amount of energy required to
 meet the needs of the public, energy efficiency reduces the total amount of dirty fossil fuel generation
 that must be replaced by clean renewable sources in order to protect public health and prevent the
 worst impacts of climate change, easing the transition and reducing the time and resources required.



























Bill Title: SB92—Department of General Services—Energy-

Conserving

Standards (Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2023)

Bill Sponsor: Senator Clarence Lam

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Position: Support

Date: February 2, 2023

Community in SUPPORT of Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2023

We, the undersigned organizations, support enacting the Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2023 to ensure Maryland continues to be a national leader in energy efficiency and biodiversity conservation—helping achieve the goals set out in the transformational 2022 Climate Solutions Now Act.

This bill would require all newly built, acquired, or renovated buildings receiving 51% Maryland State funding to follow standards for bird-friendly windows and shielded nighttime lighting, which will both conserve energy and save birds. This is of urgent need right now as we face climate change impacts and continue to lose one billion birds each year to collisions with window glass in the United States. These birds are part of our healthy breeding populations and their losses are unsustainable, as witnessed by the 29% reduction in bird numbers since 1970. Every year that bird populations decline, we lose valuable services in pollination, seed dispersal, and pest insect consumption. Birds are also critical to Maryland's tourism industry. Wildlife watching in Maryland generates over \$450 million in economic activity annually in the state.

Many jurisdictions have already passed similar legislation around the world and in the United States, including New York City, Illinois, and recently The DC Council just passed a bird-friendly bill and the Mayor has signed it. In 2020, Howard County became the first county in Maryland to pass bird-friendly building legislation.

This is a common-sense bill, where scientists and builders have come together to find proven solutions, which will save the state money over time. The methods to protect birds are codified as a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Innovation Credit by the U.S. Green Building Council. Currently, builders and architects may use this credit to meet LEED certifications, but the credit is optional and we need this bill to make it mandatory.



Currently

only 24 EPA air quality monitors in Maryland, most air quality alerts are based on computer modeling, not real time local data

Need: Accessiblity

St Mary's county's BreatheWell program has real time air pollution data using low cost sensors that monitor PM 2.5

Need: Ground level data

The town of Cheverly, Maryland, has also partnered with the University of Maryland School of Public Health to create a hyper-local air monitoring network.

We need to know

IS MY AIR SAFE?

How will HB473 address the lack of air quality data in Maryland?



Department of the Environment (MDE) to install ambient air quality monitors to measure the levels of particulate matter

the air quality data would be publicly available and accessible online MDE would be required to take the monitoring data into consideration before approving certain emissions permits

The program will prioritize the placement of monitors in census tracts with a median income below 80% of the statewide median income

requires
consultation with
the Commission
on Environmental
Justice and
Sustainable
Communities and
sets minimum
public input
standards

require the Air Quality
Control Advisory
Council to conduct a
study and make reports
related to ambient air
quality monitoring to
the General Assembly
on or before
September 2026



Zero-Emission Truck Act of 2023

HB 230 (Del. Sara Love) and SB 224 (Sen. Malcolm Augustine)



Trucks and other large vehicles account for 9% of vehicles on the road but contribute 21% of carbon pollution and 48% of particulate matter pollution (PM2.5) emitted by the entire transportation sector in Maryland. People who are heavily exposed to PM2.5 and other toxic truck emissions like nitrogen oxides are at a greater risk for developing asthma and other lung diseases like chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lung cancer.

To help meet its long-term climate, air quality, and public health goals, Maryland should pass legislation to adopt the Advanced Clean Truck (ACT) Rule. The rule requires that vehicle manufacturers sell an increasing percentage of new zero-emission trucks and school

buses through 2035. By requiring the electrification of school buses and large pickup, delivery, drayage, and semi-trucks, the Advanced Clean Truck Rule is a critical tool in the effort to combat toxic air pollution that makes us sick and contributes to climate change.

What Would This Bill Do?

- The Zero-Emission Truck Act of 2023 would require the Maryland Department of
 Environment to adopt the Advanced Clean Truck Rule by the end of 2023. The rule requires
 vehicle manufacturers to sell an increasing annual percentage of zero-emission trucks and
 school buses that varies by size beginning in Model Year 2027. The rule increases sales
 targets at a pace that is gradual and technologically feasible.
- The Advanced Clean Truck rule has a one-time reporting requirement for all fleets. The
 collected data will help identify areas with high rates of freight traffic and consequently,
 diesel pollution. In 2022, the Maryland Commission on Climate Change included a
 recommendation in its annual report that Maryland adopt the Advanced Clean Truck Rule.

Watch the "Adopting the Clean Trucks Rule Video."

Did You Know?

- According to data from a <u>report</u> by the International Council on Clean Transportation, if Maryland adopts the Advanced Clean Truck Rule, the state would avoid more than 116,000 cases of respiratory illnesses like asthma cumulatively through 2050.
- Electric trucks and school buses produce no tailpipe emissions and are increasingly available. There are over 100 models from more than 30 manufacturers that are either currently on the market or will be before 2024.
- Companies across the nation are increasingly demanding clean trucks and vans to help
 them meet their climate and pollution goals, and to save on the costs of fuel and
 maintenance. Over 70 major companies including fleet operators like IKEA and Nestlé
 signed a letter urging governors across the country to accelerate the growth of clean
 trucks by adopting the Advanced Clean Truck Rule.

States Lead the Way

In 2020, California set the first Zero Emission Vehicle truck sales standards in the nation by adopting the Advanced Clean Truck Rule. Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington have already joined California in adopting these standards, and now Maryland can too! Maryland, D.C., and over a dozen other states also signed a joint memorandum of understanding in 2020 committing to truck electrification and eliminating 30% of toxic air pollution from medium- and heavy-duty trucks and buses by 2030. The Zero-Emission Truck Act of 2023 can build upon this effort by codifying sales standards and providing a timeline.



Addressing Truck Traffic & Pollution

Residential neighborhoods located near major roads and highways face disproportionate burdens from traffic and transportation pollution. These neighborhoods are far more often communities of color due to decades of residential segregation, and bear a burden of unsafe pedestrian conditions, higher rates of asthma and other health conditions, and unremitting noise pollution. Additional

policies are needed to help promote the creation of high-quality green jobs and ensure that electric trucks and school buses are deployed in communities that need relief most.

For More Information Contact:

Lindsey Mendelson - Lindsey.Mendelson@mdsierra.org and Kevin Shen - KShen@ucsusa.org

HBCU Systemability













- BSU has a new area of study in Environmental Science
- In the near future, Bowie State hopes to offer a course on Environmental Injustice and racism which will concentrate on environmental laws, policies, and victims of environmental disasters and discuss the legacy of structural racism and how it has rendered vulnerable Black and Brown communities to environmental issues.
- Educational forums/panels and other related events focused on environmental injustice issues are held. Recent events included a Climate Justice Dinner & Dialogue and a Movie on the lawn night, where students watched a series of short films focused on how disproportionately affected communities around the world are dealing with climate change.
- The BSU Student Green Ambassadors invited and hosted several gubernatorial candidate discussions on campus before the 2022 primaries to speak to students about their political views, primarily as it relates to climate change. Our Student Green Ambassadors also bring voice and awareness to real-life environmental tragedies and disasters through social media.
- Bowie State and UMD have partnered together to form the Social Justice Alliance, which engages students and communities to bring about social change, which includes environmental aspects.







Jabari Walker is the Sustainability & Energy Coordinator at Bowie State University. Jabari leads the Office of Sustainability and is currently the chair of the University's Sustainability Committee (known as C4), as well as the co-creator and advisor of the BSU Green Ambassadors. Outside of BSU, Jabari is the co-chair of the Education, Communications and Outreach Workgroup of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change and sits on the Maryland Sea Grant External Advisory Board. He has also over the years gained more interest in Environmental Justice and making sure students are informed about the topic and the challenges of the movement.



"As the nation and world get more serious about tackling climate change, it is important that the younger generation, particularly black and brown people, also learn about the historic and present-day environmental related injustices our communities face, how to change them, and how to avoid such inequities in the future. BSU students are future leaders and are slated to be the change agents through policy and activism that this generation so desperately needs."

--Jabari Walker

Anas Akbar, Ph.D. (pictured below), is a Lecturer in the Department of Sociology at Bowie State University. He instructs on a broad range of social justice issues and is looking forward to adding environmental justice to his course offerings.

"We live in an era where your zip code heavily determines your well-being. Whether it is your place of residence, or the health of your air and water, these basic essentials can affect your quality of life from an early age. At the highest risk are Black and Brown communities, and working-class communities, which should serve as a moral conundrum considering these should be human rights, and not privileges. Therefore, climate action presents an opportunity to address environmental injustice in a humane manner to better the livelihood of marginalized communities."

-- Dr. Anas Akbar





Blue + Gold = Green









Sustainability at Morgan State University

Morgan State University has a strong commitment to sustainability. One of the aspirations of Morgan's most recent strategic plan is to develop and institute a comprehensive renewable and sustainable energy plan. Morgan has taken several initiatives to reduce its environmental impact. Some of the initiatives include:

- Energy Efficiency: Morgan State University has implemented energy-efficient measures, such as upgrading lighting systems and installing energy-efficient HVAC systems to reduce its energy consumption.
- Renewable Energy: The university is exploring using renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, to reduce its reliance on fossil fuels.
- Sustainable Transportation: Morgan State University encourages using alternative forms of transportation, such as public transportation, biking, and carpooling, to reduce emissions from single-occupancy vehicles.
- Green Campus: The university is working to make its campus more environmentally friendly by planting trees, creating green spaces, and incorporating sustainable landscape design.
- Recycling and Waste Reduction:
 Morgan State University has
 implemented recycling programs
 and is working to reduce waste by
 encouraging students, faculty, and
 staff to adopt sustainable
 practices, such as reducing,
 reusing, and recycling.

These initiatives demonstrate Morgan State University's commitment to sustainability and its efforts to reduce its environmental impact.







UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE



Good afternoon. We are the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore (UMES) Chapter of the NAACP. We are an organization striving to make a change on our campus through student engagement and activism. We decided to support the NAACP Maryland Environmental and Climate Justice event because we attend school in an area where we are experiencing the extreme effects of sea level rise, concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs), and pollution in the Chesapeake Bay, to name a few. Understanding how legislation impacts environmental and climate justice are especially important to address the issues facing our community to help improve our quality of life and do our part to help save the planet.



At UMES, we have many environmental-based undergraduate programs that support environmental

awareness. We perform community service events based on educating our fellow students on climate and the environment. We offer climate-and environmentally-focused events on reducing green house gas emissions, improving resilience to climate change, and waste



management activities including recycling and composting after major events like Homecoming and Spring Fest to help responsibly manage trash and increase awareness amongst all students.

The president of NAACP UMES, Cairo Harris (pictured above), and chapter membership are in full support of this event. "It is particularly important for us to protect the earth that was provided for us to live on! This is our

home and will be our home for future generations, and it is our duty to protect it," said Cairo Harris, President, NAACP UMES Unit 7716.

The programs offered at UMES include the Department of Natural Sciences (DNS) undergraduate programs in biochemistry, biology, chemistry, and environmental sciences. DNS is also home to graduate programs in chemistry, marine, estuarine, and environmental sciences, and toxicology. Graduate faculty research focuses on environmental chemistry and toxicology, coastal ecosystem and fisheries health, natural secondary metabolite chemistry, nutrient cycling and carbon sequestration, and the functional properties of nanostructures.

Good laws lead to good jobs.

Watch this video, featuring Wind energy, for insights into the laws that support the development of clean/green jobs.



The video can also be found **here**

Are you looking for an internship or career in renewable energy? Check out these sites featuring jobs in Green/Clean Technology:





DAYAWAY CAREERS

Also, check out *Career Pathways in Wind Energy* on this website https://www.offshorewindtraining.ny.gov/careers/pathways

Simply the Best!!

THANK YOU!!

THIS EVENT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT YOU!

NAACP MEMBER FACILITATORS (CAPACITY BUILDING)

DR. TRACY GARRETT, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BRANCH STEVEN WADDY, ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY BRANCH ROSA PINOLA HANCE, ST. MARY'S COUNTY BRANCH TERESA BALL, CHARLES COUNTY BRANCH

HBCU ADVISORS

BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY: JABARI WALKER AND ANAS ABDALLAH ASKAR

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PINK HIPPO

NAACP





Environmental and Climate Justice

Mission:

-Reduce Harmful Emissions
-Advance Energy Efficiency and
Clean Energy Legislation
-Strengthen Community Resilience
and Liveability



"We cannot achieve health justice, economic justice, racial justice, or educational justice without environmental justice." - Kamala Harris