

What happens when the lights go out?

Maryland's climate change proposals go too far, too soon

All Marylanders want reliable and safe energy to heat their homes and keep their lights on. There is a big push to establish requirements, restrictions, and incentives for residential, commercial, and low-income housing, to operate *solely on electricity*. This will have far-reaching effects on consumers and businesses.

What's being proposed?

• **Senate Bill 528 and House Bill 831**: Both bills seek to BAN the future use of natural gas, propane and heat oil from new building construction starting next year.

ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2023, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT, AS PART OF THE STANDARDS, A REQUIREMENT THAT NEW BUILDINGS MEET ALL WATER AND SPACE HEATING DEMAND WITHOUT THE USE OF FOSSIL FUELS

- These bills also create a carbon tax on buildings that do not meet strict emissions standards
- **House Bill 708:** This bill sets greenhouse gas emission goals that will come at great cost to Maryland's economy net-zero GHG emissions by 2045

What's the effect?

More expense, less choice, and shaky reliability

- These bills will shut down businesses in Maryland longtime, family-owned heating and oil fuel businesses will not be able to survive under this legislation.
- Homeowners will not be able to retrofit their homes or repair existing heating oil systems leading to
 costly new purchases that run only on electricity.
- A sole-source electric energy policy is dangerous. One cyberattack could leave families, hospitals, college students, and businesses without any source of electricity, lighting, or heat.
- Limiting natural gas, propane, and heat oil will drive up costs for families, businesses and seniors that enjoy cooking on propane and gas stove tops or have gas fireplaces, propane powered grills, and other popular home appliances.

What can I do?

- Contact your legislators and ask them to VOTE NO on these damaging bills. (Find your legislator at www.mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/members/district.)
- Contact the Governor at 410-974-3901 or https://governor.maryland.gov/contact-the-governor/
- Spread the word and let everyone know what is at stake.
- Plan to testify on <u>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15 at 1:00PM</u> about the effects these bills will have on your business, your affiliates, and your customers! Visit General Assembly website
 (https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/) to find out how to testify or click https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/) to find out how to testify or click https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/) to find out how to testify or click https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/)