

2023 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

CEEPC Legislative Committee

February 22, 2023

CEEPC Legislative Committee Background

- CEEPC's Legislative Committee is a small group of CEEPC members who periodically meet with staff to review legislative initiatives in D.C., Maryland, and Virginia
- COG staff track various bills during the legislative session that fall within COG's legislative priorities
- A series of ad hoc calls are held to determine specific bills to send comment letters on
- The committee primarily runs from January – April

2023 COG Legislative Priorities

Climate and Energy Innovation & Air Quality Protection

- Support Policies to Meet the Region's Climate Goals
- Support Multi-Sector Actions to Reduce Greenhouse Gases
- Ensure Sustainable Secure Energy Access for All
- Support Aggressive State Renewable Portfolio Standards
- Expand Clean Energy Innovation, Technology and Finance
- Support Aggressive Energy Efficiency Goals
- Enhance Incentives and Financing Mechanisms for Resilient Infrastructure
- Support Policies that Preserve and Protect Regional Air Quality and Public Health

Key Dates in VA/MD/DC

Virginia

- Session convened January 11
- Crossover is February 7
- Adjournment: February 25
- Maryland
 - Session convened January 11
 - Crossover is March 20
 - Adjournment: April 10
- D.C.
 - 2-year session 2023-24

District of Columbia Legislation

- Electric Bicycle Incentive Kickstarting the Environment (“E-BIKE”) Act of 2023
- Healthy Homes and Residential Electrification Amendment Act of 2023
- Comprehensive Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Access, Readiness, and Sustainability Amendment Act of 2023

Virginia Legislation

- Virginia Clean Economy Act (VCEA)
 - A series of bills attempt to roll back climate progress by either weakening the VCEA itself or increasing Virginia's dependence on fossil fuels
- Clean Car Standards Repeal
 - 5 bills and to repeal the Clean Car Standards were defeated by the Senate Agricultural Committee. However, one House bill has been passed and referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources. (A second House bill failed in the House).
- Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
- Clean Energy

Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI)

- State Air Board voted to withdraw from RGGI (Dec. 7, 2022)
 - Currently with Governor's Office, next will be a 60-day public comment period, back to Air Board
- Joint Commission on Administrative Rules voted 5-4 objecting to RGGI withdrawal (Dec. 20, 2022)
 - Objection will be filed with the Virginia Registrar and the State Air Pollution Control Board
- Legislation: SB 1001 (Stuart): Clean Energy and Community Flood Preparedness Act; Repeal.
 - Directs the Director of the VA Department of Environmental Quality to take all steps necessary to suspend the Commonwealth's participation in the RGGI. Passed by indefinitely in Senate Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Maryland Legislation

- Clean Truck Act of 2023
 - Directs MDE to adopt regulations establishing requirements for the sale of new zero-emission medium- and heavy-duty vehicles in the state by end of 2023.
- Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
- County and Municipal Street Lighting Investment Act

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