

# 2021 STATE LEGISLATIVE OUTLOOK

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Climate, Energy and Environment Policy Committee

January 27, 2021



Metropolitan Washington  
Council of Governments

# 2021 COG Legislative Priorities

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## *Climate and Energy Innovation & Air Quality Protection*

- Support Deployment of Clean Energy Innovation and Technology
- Enhance Sustainable Secure Energy Access for All
- Support Policies to Meet the Region's Climate Goals
- Expand Clean Energy Finance
- Support Policies that Preserve and Protect Regional Air Quality and Public Health
- Enhance Incentives and Financing Mechanisms for Green Infrastructure and Natural Resource Protection
- Support the Transportation Climate Initiative in Designing and Taking Actions to Reduce Greenhouse gases

# CEEPC Legislative Subcommittee

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- CEEPC's Legislative Subcommittee is a small group of local government 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 subcommittee primarily runs from January – April.
- The first subcommittee meeting was held on Friday, January, 22, 2021.
- The legislative tracking sheet is posted on the CEEPC January meeting materials [online](#).

# Legislature Timeline

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- Virginia
  - Session started January 13, 2021. 30-day with an option for the General Assembly to make it a 45-day session. Crossover is February 5, 2021.
- Maryland
  - Session started January 13, 2021. 90-day session, crossover is March 22, 2021.
- D.C.
  - New 2-year session 2021-22.

# Virginia

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- Clean Energy
  - HB 1919 (Kory) – Authorizes a locality to establish a green bank to promote and finance clean energy investments.
  - HB 2048 (Bourne) – Authorizes customers to buy renewable energy from any supplier. Third party suppliers of renewable energy are required to offer a discounted renewable energy product to low-income customers.
  - HB 1859 (Guy) – Authorizes Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) loans to be extended to projects completed in the previous 2 years, amends last years legislation.
- Building Standards
  - SB 1224 (Boysko) & HB 2227 (Kory) – Requires the Board of Housing and Community Development to adopt amendments to the Uniform Statewide Building Code within one year of publication of a new version of the International Code Council's International Energy Conservation Code (IECC).

# Virginia

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- Electrification
  - HB 1965 (Bagby) – Clean Car Standard bill.
  - HB 1979 (Reid) – Creates a rebate program for the purchase or lease of new and used electric vehicles.
  - HB 2118 (Keam) – Electric Vehicle Grant Fund and Program, assists school boards in replacing diesel buses with electric, installing charging infrastructure.
  - SB 1223 (Boysko) - Adds a requirement to the Virginia Energy Plan to include an analysis of electric vehicle charging infrastructure to support the 2045 net-zero carbon target in the transportation sector.

# Maryland

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- Climate Goals and Education
  - SB 76 (Kramer) & HB 33 (Fraser-Hidalgo) – Climate Crisis and Education Act.
  - SB 414 (Pinsky & All) & HB 583 (Stein) – Climate Solutions Now Act Requires the State to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions by 60% from 2006 levels by 2030
- Clean Energy
  - SB 77 (Griffith) & HB 70 (Rogers) – Gives preference to applications for funding for a net-zero home from the Energy-Efficient Homes Construction Fund.
  - HB 584 (Watson) & SB 508 (Peters) – Increasing the maximum generation capacity of an electric generating system used by an eligible customer-generator for net metering to 5 megawatts.

# Maryland

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- Renewable Energy Portfolio Standards
  - HB 561 (Davis) – Expands the types of energy sources that qualify as Tier 1 renewable sources.
- Buildings
  - SB 228 (Hettleman) / HB 86 (Forbes) – Green Building Restoration Act. Alters the definition of "high performance building" to include certain schools and public safety buildings.
  - HB 236 (Hill, Feldmark, Ebersole, Kerr, Johnson, Terrasa, R. Lewis, and Bagnall) – Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2021.
  - HB 379 (Charkoudian) / SB 462 (Feldman) – Low Income Housing Energy Performance Targets.



# Maryland

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- Green Business
  - HB 61 (Shetty) – Statewide Green Business Certification Program.
- Resilience
  - SB 54 (Chair, Finance Committee (By Request - Departmental - Maryland Energy Administration) – Clean Energy Loan Programs Grid Resilience Projects.
  - HB 295 (Love & Henson) & SB 227 (Elfreth, Hester, and Pinsky) – Stormwater Management Regulations. Support with amendments to include consultation with local governments.

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