

# 2022 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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Katie Dyer, COG Environmental Programs

Air and Climate Public Advisory Committee (ACPAC)

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# 2022 COG Legislative Priorities

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

- Support Policies to Meet the Region's Climate Goals
- Ensure Sustainable Secure Energy Access for All
- Support Aggressive State Renewable Portfolio Standards
- Expand Clean Energy Innovation, Technology and Finance
- Support the Transportation Climate Initiative in designing and taking action to reduce Greenhouse gases
- Enhance Incentives and Financing Mechanisms for Resilient Infrastructure
- Support Policies that Preserve and Protect Regional Air Quality and Public Health

# CEEPC Legislative Committee

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- CEEPC's Legislative Committee 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 committee primarily runs from January – April.
- The first committee meeting is scheduled for **January 31<sup>st</sup>**.

# Legislature Timeline

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- Virginia
  - Session convened January 12. 60-day session. Last day to introduce bills January 21. Crossover is February 15. adjournment date is March 12.
- Maryland
  - Session convened January 12. 90-day session. House deadline to introduce bills is February 4. Senate deadline to introduce bills is February 7. Crossover is March 21, 2021. Adjournment date is April 11.
- D.C.
  - 2-year session 2021-22.

# Virginia

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- Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin issued an Executive Order to re-evaluate Virginia's participation in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).
- The Executive Order states the following:
  - Provide Governor Youngkin a full report re-evaluating the costs and benefits of participation in RGGI in view of all available data, within 30 days.
  - During this same period, develop a proposed emergency regulation for the State Air Pollution Control Board's consideration to repeal 9VAC5-140.
  - During this same period, take all necessary steps to so that any proposed regulation the State Air Pollution Control Board can be immediately presented for consideration for approval for public comment in accordance with the Board's authority pursuant to §10.1-1308 of the Code of Virginia.
  - During this same period, notify RGGI of the review and the Governor's intent to withdraw from RGGI, whether by legislative or regulatory action.

# Virginia

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- Climate and Energy
  - HB 903 (Lopez) – Creates the Virginia Green Infrastructure Bank
  - HB 845 (Bloxom Jr) & SB 756 (Lewis, Jr) – Creates the Resilient Virginia Revolving Loan Fund
  - HB 568 (Kory) – Regional Green Bank: Two or more localities may enter into agreements with one another for joint action to establish a green bank
  - SB 452 (Boysko) – Requires the Board of Housing and Community Development to adopt optional building energy efficiency standards and allows localities to adopt and enforce these standards
  - HB 708 (Keam) – Virginia Electric Vehicle Grant Program

# Virginia

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- Climate and Energy
  - SB 657 (Stanley) – Limits the authority of the Air Pollution Control to issuance of regulations and transfers the Boards' existing authority to issue permits and orders to the DEQ
  - HB 118 (Freitas) – Regulation of Electric Utilities, repeals provisions requiring the State Air Pollution Control Board to adopt regulations to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from any electricity generating unit in the Commonwealth and authorizing the Board to establish an auction program for energy allowances.
  - HB 1204 Renewable energy certificates (Kilgore) – Prevents the RPS from taking effect until 2025 and removes the authority of the State Air Pollution Control Board to issue, deny, renew, amend, or extend a minor new source review air permit.
  - HB 1301 (Kilgore) & SB 532 (Stuart) – Repeals the Community Flood Preparedness Act, direct DEQ to suspend participation in RGGI

# Maryland

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- Climate and Energy
  - Climate Solutions Now Act (Bill forthcoming)
  - SB 308 (Lam) – Statewide Green Business Certification Program
  - HB 108 (Charkoudian) – Energy Performance Targets and Low-Income Housing
- Funding
  - HB 31 (Charkoudian) & SB 256 (Beidle) – Establishes the Resiliency Hub Grant Program and Fund in the Maryland Energy Administration
  - HB 100 (Soloman) & SB 14 (Elfreth) – Establishing the Sustainable Maryland Program Fund



# District of Columbia

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- B24-0420 - Clean Energy DC Building Code Amendment Act of 2021 (Pinto, Nadeau, Henderson, Lewis George, Allen, and Cheh)
  - Would require that all new construction be subject to the District's voluntary net zero energy standard known as Appendix Z by a date certain.
- B24-0267- Climate Commitment Act of 2021 (Cheh, Allen, R. White, Nadeau, Lewis George, Henderson, Pinto, and Chairman Mendelson)
  - Codify the 2050 carbon neutrality commitment, as well as add interim targets for greenhouse gas reductions between 2025 and 2050.

## Katie Dyer

Environmental Planner

(202) 962-3227

[kdyer@mwkog.org](mailto:kdyer@mwkog.org)

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777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 300

Washington, DC 20002