

GOAT Noat for March: Environmental Legislation in the Maryland Assembly

1. **Clean Energy Jobs Act.** Both houses of the **Assembly overrode Gov. Hogan's veto** of this landmark legislation, bringing it into law. To build on this success, join the **Maryland Clean Energy Jobs Initiative** (www.cleanenergyjobs.org). Their agenda is to expand clean energy in Maryland to 50% by 2030, fund women- and minority-owned energy businesses, and create solar job training programs for Maryland residents. You can help by funding this campaign or holding a house party to raise funds and interest.
2. **Fracking in Maryland.** There are currently two bills in Annapolis about fracking. **Senate Bill 740** would place a **permanent, statewide ban** on fracking. **Senate Bill 862** would place another two-year **moratorium** on the practice and put fracking to a **county-by-county referendum** vote. Only one bill will get out of the Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee. Which one will it be?

A permanent ban is the only thing that will truly protect our communities from the health, environmental, and economic harms of fracking. **District 43 Senator Joan Carter Conway**, chair of the committee, is sponsoring the second bill, a thinly-disguised measure to bring fracking to Maryland. The oil and gas industry can concentrate all of their efforts on Garrett County to pass the referendum. Fracking in Garrett County harms all of us.

What you can do:

- Attend **Don't Frack Maryland march and rally**, Thursday, March 2, 12:30-2:30, Annapolis. Buses are leaving Rogers Avenue Metro Station (4300 Hayward Avenue) at 11:00am and returning to the same location at 4:00pm. Schedule, bus info, and RSVP at <http://www.dontfrackmd.org/march/>.
- Learn more and **sign a petition** to state legislators in support of a permanent ban on fracking in Maryland: http://org.salsalabs.com/o/423/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=18084
- **If you live in District 43, call Sen. Conway.** If you are unsure what to say, feel free to use this language from the Chesapeake Climate Action Network:
"As [a resident of your district and] a Marylander who stands for clean air and water, healthy children, and a safe climate, I urge you to put a permanent, statewide ban on fracking. By banning fracking, we can focus on the clean energy solutions that will sustain and strengthen -- rather than divide and pollute -- our communities."
Use mdpgis.mdp.state.md.us/Legis_District to see exactly where District 43 is. Search if an address is located in the district at www.MDElect.Net.
- **Pass this information on** to your friends and neighbors in Maryland.

For more information speak with John McKusick, Gary Gillespie, Carol Beck, or Polly Heninger of the Green Organizing/Action Team (GOAT).

