

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2018 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-7-2018

Proposed by Council Members Lehman and Glaros

Introduced by Council Members Lehman, Glaros, and Taveras

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction February 6, 2018

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Prince George’s County Calling for Increase in Maryland’s
3 Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard

4 For the purpose of providing that the Prince George’s County Council urges the Maryland
5 General Assembly to increase the state’s renewable portfolio standard to a goal of at least 50%
6 renewable energy no later than 2030 and a further goal of 100% renewable energy by 2035;
7 providing that the renewable portfolio standard must only contain safe, clean generation sources
8 such as wind, solar, and ocean tidal energy sources; providing for the transmittal of the
9 resolution; and generally relating to renewable energy.

10 WHEREAS, there is broad scientific consensus that Earth's climate is warming and this
11 warming is being caused by human activities that cause the release of greenhouse gases due to
12 use of fossil fuels; and

13 WHEREAS, climate change has far reaching impacts, including increasing likelihood of
14 extreme weather events, sea level rise, flooding, drought, and mass extinctions; and

15 WHEREAS, scientists are warning that we are quickly approaching climate tipping points,
16 which are unpredictable and may cause irreversible changes in our planet’s climate; and

17 WHEREAS, climate change can have a disproportionate and adverse impact on vulnerable
18 populations especially people living in environmental justice communities, people with low
19 incomes, children, and seniors; and

20 WHEREAS, the impact of climate change can cause damage to public parks, roads,
21 municipal properties and equipment; and

22 WHEREAS, co-pollutants from burning fossil fuels create significant respiratory ailments

1 and deaths; and

2 WHEREAS, the need for the provision of basic public services such as water treatment and
3 snow removal can increase with climate change; and

4 WHEREAS, resources for first responders can be strained when climate change related
5 extreme weather events arise; and

6 WHEREAS, many of the costs associated with the impacts of climate change and/or
7 mitigating those impacts will be borne by state and local governments, putting further strain on
8 public budgets; and

9 WHEREAS, it is less expensive to plan for and mitigate the impacts of climate change,
10 rather than respond to emergencies when they happen; and

11 WHEREAS, studies show the feasibility of creating a 100% carbon free energy system,
12 while creating jobs and improving public health.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
14 County, Maryland, that the Prince George's County Council urges the Maryland General
15 Assembly to increase the state's renewable portfolio standard to a goal of at least 50%
16 renewable energy no later than 2030 and a further goal of 100% renewable energy by 2035; and

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the renewable portfolio standard must only contain
18 safe, clean generation sources such as wind, solar, and ocean tidal energy sources, not
19 greenhouse gas emitting sources such as burning animal waste, biomass, black liquor, and
20 municipal solid waste.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be sent to the
22 Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House, the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.,
23 President of the Senate, the Honorable Jim Rosapepe, Chair, Prince George's Senate Delegation,
24 the Honorable Jay Walker, Chair, Prince George's County House Delegation, the Honorable
25 Dereck E. Davis, Chair, House Economic Matters Committee, and the Honorable Joan Carter
26 Conway, Chair, Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee.

Adopted this 27th day of February , 2018.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Dannielle M. Glaros
Chair

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council