

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 25-0008R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmember Porter

Cosponsored by: Councilmembers Parker, Conway, Middleton, Torrence, Gray, Bullock,  
Blanchard, Glover, Ramos, and President Cohen

Introduced and adopted: February 10, 2025

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**A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING**

**Request for State Action – Support the Reclaim Renewable Energy Act**

FOR the purpose of urging the Maryland General Assembly to pass HB 220/SB 10, the Reclaim Renewable Energy Act of 2025 (“RREA”), legislation that would remove incineration from the State Renewable Portfolio Standard (“RPS”) and ensure that Marylanders are not subsidizing energy plants that harm the environment and public health.

**Recitals**

**WHEREAS**, Incineration is not “clean energy”; burning trash produces greenhouse gases, contaminated ash, and toxic elements including mercury and lead. Exposure to these pollutants is associated with cancer, brain damage, asthma, lung damage, heart attacks, and heart disease, which disproportionately plague overburdened and underserved Baltimore communities.

**WHEREAS**, Baltimore is home to the Wheelabrator Baltimore (“BRESKO”) incinerator which is the largest industrial polluter in the City and disproportionately contributes to negative health outcomes in the predominantly Black and low-income communities of Westport, Mt. Winans, Cherry Hill, Lakeland, Brooklyn and Curtis Bay. For the year 2023, the BRESKO incinerator was awarded \$8,986,091.21 in subsidies from the State’s renewable energy subsidy program.

**WHEREAS**, Baltimore residents have expressed their discontent toward the BRESKO incinerator polluting their neighborhoods, as evident from submitted testimony in support of the RREA.

**WHEREAS**, Baltimore City residents should not be forced to subsidize the incinerator that is compounding racial, environmental, and health injustices and contaminating the air Baltimoreans breathe.

**WHEREAS**, Maryland has a goal of 100% clean energy by 2035 and the State Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 set a target of net-zero greenhouse emissions by 2045.

**WHEREAS**, To meet Maryland’s pollution reduction and climate goals, rather than spending on polluting and aging incinerators, our State must reallocate subsidies in a just and economically sustainable manner, directing them toward true clean and renewable energy.

**WHEREAS**, The RREA is listed among the Mayor’s administration-supported priorities for the 2025 Maryland General Assembly legislative session.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

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1       **WHEREAS**, The City of Baltimore is committed to supporting the health and wellness of all  
2 Baltimoreans, creating a cleaner and greener environment for our residents, and ensuring that a  
3 transition into clean renewable energy brings green energy to power our homes and green jobs for  
4 our residents.

5       **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, that the City of  
6 Baltimore urges the Maryland General Assembly to pass HB 220/SB 10, the Reclaim Renewable  
7 Energy Act of 2025, legislation that would remove incineration from the State Renewable  
8 Portfolio Standard and ensure that Marylanders are not subsidizing energy plants that harm the  
9 environment and public health.

10       **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
11 Governor, the President of the Maryland Senate, the Speaker of the Maryland House of  
12 Delegates, the Chair and members of the Economic Matters Committee, the Chair and members  
13 of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee, the Baltimore City Senate and  
14 House Delegations to the General Assembly, the Council President and the President's legislative  
15 staff, the Secretary of the Maryland Department of the Environment, and the Mayor's Legislative  
16 Liaison to the City Council.