

Martin O'Malley Governor

Anthony G. Brown Lieutenant Governor Robert M. Summers, Ph.D. Acting Secretary

February 16, 2011

The Honorable Peter A. Hammen Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee Room 241, House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Support, House Bill 223: State Government- Commemorative Days- Earth Hour

Dear Delegate Hammen and Committee Members:

As the Chair of the Maryland Commission on Climate Change, the Maryland Department of the Environment supports HB 223. This bill is supportive of State efforts to raise awareness of the relationship between energy conservation and environmental health. As you know, the State has committed its own comprehensive climate protection plan through the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act of 2009.

Thank you for your consideration of this information as you review HB223. Please contact me at 410-260-6301 or <u>lnissley@mde.state.md.us</u> if you would like to discuss any of these issues further.

Sincerely,

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Lisa Nissley

Cc: George (Tad) S. Aburn, Jr., Director, Air and Radiation Management Administration Heather Barthel, Director, Legislation and Policy Lisa Nissley, Legislative Liaison