

CEEPC LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

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ACPAC
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CEEPC Legislative Committee Background

- CEEPC's Legislative Committee is a small group of 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

COG Board Legislative Priorities

The COG Board adopts [legislative priorities](#) every year in January covering:

- Transportation Funding
- Housing
- Environment: Water Quality, Climate Resiliency, Air Quality
- Human Services
- Public Health Preparedness
- Homeland Security
- Food Security
- Infrastructure Investment

<https://www.mwco.org/documents/2024/01/10/cog-legislative-priorities-featured-publications-infrastructure-legislative-priorities/>

2025 COG Legislative Priorities

Climate and Energy Innovation & Air Quality Protection

- Support Policies to Meet the Region's Climate Goals
- Support Accelerated Multi-Sector Actions to Reduce Greenhouse Gases and Criteria Pollutants
- Ensure Sustainable Secure Energy Access for All
- Support Solar Deployment and Aggressive State Renewable Portfolio Standards
- Expand Clean Energy Innovation, Technology and Finance
- Support Aggressive Energy Efficiency Goals
- Enhance Incentives and Financing Mechanisms for Climate Resiliency
- Support Policies that Preserve and Protect Regional Air Quality and Public Health

Key Dates in VA/MD/DC

Virginia

- Session convened January 08
- Crossover is February 04
- Adjournment: February 22

Maryland

- Session convened January 08
- Crossover is March 17
- Adjournment: April 07

D.C.

- 2-year session 2025-26

Virginia Legislation

1. Emissions and Energy Efficiency

- **SB 1160:** Emissions Intensity target setting to achieve net zero emissions
- **SB 1196:** Energy Efficiency standards for data center operators
- **SB 1353:** Water and energy use reporting for data centers
- **HB 1883:** RPS Standards

2. Infrastructure and Development

- **SB 1225/HB 1791:** Electric Rural Vehicle Infrastructure Program to assist with development costs
- **HB 2113:** Solar Interconnection Grant Fund and Program: Grants to offset interconnection costs for solar projects
- **SB 234:** Parking lot solar pilot grant program

Virginia Legislation

3. Financing and Innovation

- **HB 2509:** Virginia Clean Energy Innovation Board: Financing for clean energy projects, GHG emissions reduction projects, and other qualified projects
- **SB 457:** Driving Decarbonization Program and Fund

Maryland Legislation

1. Green Energy and Nonprofits

- **HB 145/SB 105:** Establish Green and Renewable Energy for Nonprofit Organizations Loan Program: Zero interest loans for planning, purchase, and installation of qualifying energy structures

2. Climate Change Adaptation

- **HB 128/SB 149:** Establish Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation payment program: Secure payments from fossil fuel or petroleum products to provide revenue for adaptation and mitigation projects

Federal Policy

Executive Orders

- **INITIAL RESCISSIONS OF HARMFUL EXECUTIVE ORDERS AND ACTIONS:** Formally rescinds a series of Biden moves that stitched climate and environmental justice throughout federal agency decision-making, going well beyond energy and resource agencies - includes a repeal of the Biden administration's Justice 40 Initiative and a 2021 order that set aggressive federal procurement targets for EVs, clean power, low-carbon buildings and more.
- **PUTTING AMERICA FIRST IN INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENTS:** Withdraws the United States from the Paris Agreement and any agreement, pact, accord, or similar commitment made under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The US International Climate Finance Plan is revoked and rescinded immediately.

Federal Policy

Executive Orders

- **DECLARING A NATIONAL ENERGY EMERGENCY:** Aims to increase domestic energy production and lower energy costs. This is partly in response to the rapid AI-related growth of data centers and their energy needs, which the administration views through a national security lens.
- **UNLEASHING AMERICAN ENERGY:** Rolls back EPA tailpipe emissions rules and seeks to restart liquified natural gas terminal approvals, which the Biden administration had paused for climate change and energy security grounds.
- **TEMPORARY WITHDRAWAL OF ALL AREAS ON THE OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF FROM OFFSHORE WIND LEASING AND REVIEW OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S LEASING AND PERMITTING PRACTICES FOR WIND PROJECTS**

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