


**MaryPIRG Student Climate Action Coalition**
**Bill Proposal**

On behalf of the MaryPIRG Student Climate Action Coalition, we are requiring all four year public colleges in Maryland (all schools in the University System Maryland plus Morgan State University and St. Mary's College) to achieve carbon neutrality (net zero carbon emissions) as outlined below.

A. Carbon neutrality
    1. 2025 - scope 1 & 2 emissions
    2. 2030 - scope 3 emissions
    3. In order for universities to achieve carbon neutrality, suggested carbon reduction methods include increasing energy efficiency, electrifying vehicle fleets, committing to net zero building emissions, and converting to renewable energy. If universities choose to use carbon offsets, the requirements outlined in section B must be met.

B. Offset requirements
    1. 2025 - 25% in-state offsets
    2. 2030 - 50% in-state offsets
    3. 2035 - 100% in-state offsets
    4. When considering offset projects, prioritize those that would benefit communities historically affected by environmental injustices.

C. Offset verification
    1. Verified through Gold Standard, VCS and CCBS, or carbon accounting methodology approved by the state of Maryland.
        a) Any carbon accounting methodology approved by the state of Maryland must include additionality standards.

D. Office of sustainability
    1. Effective immediately, an existing faculty or staff person must be appointed to execute and track progress of the above clauses.

2. By 2030, one or more dedicated sustainability positions at each university must be created and filled, unless the school already has filled such a position.