



## **Providing Good Green Jobs in the New Economy**

The Climate Crisis presents Maryland with a unique opportunity to reimagine our economy and build a stronger, more sustainable, and inclusive future. John knows that to bring this promise to fruition we must take a holistic approach. We must find ways to address Climate Change across government agencies and lead by example by divesting the state's pension fund from fossil fuels. Constructing a green economy will create tens of thousands of good-paying jobs, and build wealth for Marylanders in every corner of our state.

John knows that this new Maryland economy must recognize the dignity of work from all its people and break down the structural barriers that have for far too long held back so many Black and brown entrepreneurs. But, it is not enough to just transition the current workforce, we must invest in education and workforce development to ensure Maryland's youth are equipped to understand climate change, advance bold climate solutions, and succeed in the clean economy; and to ensure good clean economy jobs are accessible to Marylanders of color, low-income Marylanders, and others who have been historically underrepresented in good jobs.

### **John will support economic dignity and a just transition by:**

- Ensuring communities of color benefit from the high-wage, high skill jobs created by the transition to the clean economy and that businesses owned by people of color are centered in the transition.
- Supporting union jobs and apprenticeships to ensure family sustaining wages and health and retirement benefits for Marylanders as we transition to a clean economy through off-shore wind, solar, and infrastructure investments.

### **To ensure Maryland's education system is developing a clean economy workforce and contributing to Maryland's sustainable future, John will:**

- Increase funding for STEM, climate change, environmental sustainability, and career and technical programs in K-12 schools, including those in low-income or high-need communities, community colleges, HBCUs, and the other UMD institutions.
- Work with Maryland educators, students, and families to develop and integrate cross-curricular climate change standards for students across grade levels.
- Center historically underserved students and institutions in opportunities for high-quality career and technical education programming for the high-skill and high-wage green careers of the future.

**John will appoint a State Climate Advisor within the Governor's Executive Council to identify and address cross-cutting opportunities to address climate change.**

- The state climate advisor will work across agencies with the public, the General assembly, the Maryland Commission on Climate Change, the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities, Maryland businesses, and other local and community leaders to ensure Maryland advances ambitious climate policies to improve our environment, create economic opportunity, and advance climate justice.

**John will divest the state pension fund from fossil fuels.**

- Our commitment to reducing our reliance on fossil fuels must extend across all our policies. In addition to the environmental benefits, fossil fuel divestment makes sense economically as our worldwide economy makes the transition away from fossil fuels. By divesting from fossil fuels, as a state, we will demonstrate a strong commitment to a sustainable future.