

Barbara Falcigno

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February 27, 2013

Senator Karen Montgomery 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Montgomery,

The Greater Olney Civic Association (GOCA) is an umbrella group representing over 40,000 people in the Olney area. As a satellite town in a rural area, it is not unusual to lose power during storms.

P.O. Box 212 • Olney, Maryland • 20830

www.goca.org

The GOCA officers unanimously support Senate Bill 0689. Although \$20,000 will likely not cover the entire cost of a large system, it does offers an incentive for gas stations to make the capital investment of a generator for their pumps, stores, and cash registers. Even if only one gas station in an area chooses to acquire a generator, the entire community will benefit. Emergency responders and essential personnel at hospitals and nursing homes will be able to get to work.

Due to the installation cost, the space that is needed for the generator, the cost of maintenance, and the number of days per year it is likely needed, we feel only a small percentage of retail service stations will decide to install an alternative power source. Thus the fiscal impact will likely be very small to local jurisdictions. It is an important bill and we support it.

Sincerely,

Barbara Falcigno

Barbara Falcigno President, Greater Olney Civic Association

cc.

Senator Roger Manno