



MARYLAND LEAGUE  
OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

# Hot List – HOUSE

WEEK of March 17, 2008

The **Maryland League of Conservation Voters** is pleased to present the “Hot List” – a detailed list of the environmental community’s highest priority legislation for *this week*. Every Tuesday, we will e-mail and distribute it by hand to your office. We hope you find this communication helpful and instructive as you tackle important environmental bills this session. If you have any questions please contact Liz Nelson at enelson@mdlcv.org

## FLOOR ACTION

### HB 376: High Performance Buildings Act

#### POSITION: **SUPPORT**

- ◆ High performance buildings are designed to efficiently use natural resources for minimal environmental impact and economic cost and allow for significant reductions in energy and water use—Maryland should lead by example

## COMMITTEE ACTION

### HB 712: Global Warming Solutions - Reductions in Greenhouse Gases

Economic Matters & Environmental Matters Committees – **ALREADY HEARD**

#### POSITION: **SUPPORT**

- ◆ Global warming is the greatest environmental challenge of our time and everything we do to address it will have immediate benefits to the state – creating jobs, lowering costs to consumers and businesses, and making our power system more reliable



### HB 1253: Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area Protection Program - Administrative and Enforcement Provisions

Environmental Matters Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

#### POSITION: **SUPPORT**

- ◆ Revises the Critical Area Act to provide the Critical Area Commission with the tools it needs to better administer and enforce the law
- ◆ Limiting development through the enhanced protection of critical buffers strips will result in reduced sediment and contaminated runoff, cleaner water, and improved habitat for the Bays’ fish and crabs



### HB 374: EmPOWER Maryland Energy Efficiency Act of 2008 & HB 368: Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative – Maryland Strategic Energy Investment Program

Economic Matters Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

#### POSITION: **SUPPORT**

- ◆ HB 374 requires Maryland to reduce its per capita energy use 15 percent by 2015 and HB 368 ensures Maryland Energy Administration funding through the auction of carbon credits
- ◆ On average, consumers save two to three dollars for every dollar invested in energy efficiency



### HB 369: Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund and Nonpoint Source Fund

Environmental Matters Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

#### POSITION: **SUPPORT**

- ◆ The Chesapeake Bay 2010 Trust Fund will allow Maryland to significantly increase its ability to meet the goals outlined in the Chesapeake 2000 Agreement



**HB 1416: Intercounty Connector - Impact on Global Warming - Study and**  
**HB 1471: Transportation - Intercounty Connector - Elimination of Funding and**  
**HB 1595: Intercounty Connector - Public Health Impacts from Air Pollution - Assessment**  
**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ The ICC will degrade water and air quality, destroy open space, add to global warming, and cost over \$3 billion

**HB 375: Renewable Portfolio Standard Percentage Requirements – Acceleration**  
Economic Matters Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ Maryland should put itself ahead of the curve on creating clean energy industries
- ◆ This will make our electricity system more reliable through diversifying our energy sources, promoting economic development, and cleaning up the environment

**HB 1320 and HB 1337: Maryland Clean Energy Center**  
Economic Matters Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ These bills establish a Clean Energy Center in Maryland—Clean Energy Centers have been helpful in other states in fostering creativity & development of clean, renewable energy and serving as a clean energy business incubator

**HB 1189: Environment - Phosphorus - Dishwashing Detergent**  
Environmental Matters Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

**POSITION: *OPPOSE***

- ◆ This bill delays the implementation date of the phosphorus ban passed last year—a delay of just six months equals an additional 7.5 tons of phosphorus entering our waters

**HB 1193: Environment - Statute of Limitations**  
Environmental Matters Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ Environmental enforcement needs to be a greater priority for Maryland if we intend to make progress in protecting the public's health and the air, land, and waters of the state
- ◆ Environmental violations are notoriously difficult to detect and can be quite difficult to prosecute

**HB 835: Mercury Switch Removal from Vehicles**  
Environmental Matters Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ Requires the removal of mercury-containing switches from vehicles, reducing a sizable source of mercury

**HB 596: County Boards of Education - Procurement of Green Product Cleaning Supplies**  
Ways & Means Committee – **ALREADY HEARD**

**POSITION: *SUPPORT***

- ◆ Creates a procurement preference for green cleaning products in public schools—this would reduce the harsh chemicals that kids are exposed to on a daily basis

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For more than 25 years, the **Maryland League of Conservation Voters** has been the **independent political voice for the environment** in our state. Maryland LCV is dedicated to making environmental protection and restoration a top priority for Maryland's elected officials, appointed leaders, candidates and voters. The Maryland League of Conservation Voters **advocates for sound conservation policies, works to get pro-environment candidates elected, and holds elected officials accountable for their votes and actions.**