



**Maryland League of Conservation Voters**  
The Political Voice of the Environment

## Maryland Green Champions Award

Maryland is fortunate to have a legislature full of supporters for strong environmental legislation. Every year, Maryland LCV rewards these elected officials with high marks on our annual legislative scorecard. These marks, however, don't always allow us to tell the full story of our greatest champions: the Delegates and Senators whose annual scores don't truly reflect their leadership on environmental issues.

This is why Maryland LCV is proud to announce our Maryland Green Champion Award, to showcase and celebrate the legislators whose leadership rises above and beyond their voting record. This high honor will be awarded each year to Delegates and Senators who meet the following standards:

- 100% score in the previous year
- Lifetime scores since 2003 (or current and previous two legislative terms) above 95%
- Primary sponsor for at least one major LCV legislative priority in previous three years.
- Not supporting LCV opposed legislation on Hot List during that awards legislative session.

## Hot List WEEK of January 30th

The Maryland League of Conservation Voters is pleased to present the "Hot List" - a detailed list of environmental legislation moving through the Maryland General Assembly. Usually, our volunteers will deliver the Hot List to your office every Tuesday; it will also be emailed to your office. We hope you find this weekly communication helpful and instructive as you tackle important environmental bills this session. If you have any questions, please contact Kristen Harbeson at [kharbeson@mdlcv.org](mailto:kharbeson@mdlcv.org) or 410-280-9855, extension 202.

## Pending Environmental Legislation

<b>Title:</b>	<b>Oil and Natural Gas – Hydraulic Fracturing – Prohibition</b>
<b>Summary:</b>	Prohibits the exploration or production of natural gas through the process of hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”) in Maryland.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Sen. Bobby Zirkin



<b>Title:</b>	<b>Clean Energy Jobs Act – Override</b>
<b>Summary:</b>	Increases the amount of energy Maryland derives from renewable resources to 25% by the year 2020. Overrides the Governor’s veto of the 2016 legislation.
<b>Position:</b>	Support



# Maryland House of Delegates

## Appropriations Committee

<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 150/ SB 170</b> <a href="#">Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2018)</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	We will oppose rollbacks to the legislative legacy of healthy air, clean water, and unpolluted lands. We must remain vigilant in protecting key environmental programs such as Program Open Space or the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bay Trust Fund or Bay Restoration Fundas well as critical resources needed for enforcement and program implementation at the Departments of Environmental, Agriculture, Transportation, Planning, Natural Resources, and Energy.
<b>Status:</b>	House - First Reading Appropriations
<b>Position:</b>	Monitor
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Speaker, President



## Economic Matters Committee

<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 229/ SB 186</b> <a href="#">Environment - Polystyrene Food Service Products and Polystyrene Loose Fill Packaging - Prohibition on Sale</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Prohibiting service of food and beverage in polystyrene products statewide, and sale of polystyrene food containers and packing peanuts.
<b>Status:</b>	Environment and Transportation (Economic Matters) Hearing 2/15 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Del. Brooke Lierman/ Sen. Cheryl Kagan



<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB514/ SB 184</b> <a href="#">Energy Efficiency Programs - Calculation of Program Savings and Consideration of Cost-Effectiveness</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Codifies key aspects of the Maryland Public Service Commission's (PSC) Order No. 87082 in an effort to ensure the continued success of EmPOWER Maryland, the state's signature energy efficiency program. Specifically, SB 184 would codify the PSC order's requirement that utilities increase their annual energy savings goal to 2% of their retail sales, as well as the order's updated cost-effectiveness criteria. Energy efficiency programs are a critical and cost-effective way to reduce energy consumption, decrease electricity bills, lower greenhouse gas and criteria pollutant emissions, and assure that energy is available for Marylanders at the lowest rates.
<b>Status:</b>	Economic Matters - Hearing 2/09 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Del. Sally Jameson/ Sen. Thomas Middleton

## Environment and Transportation Committee

<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 66</b> <a href="#">Environment - Lead and Mercury Wheel Weights - Prohibited</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Prohibits the use of wheel weights containing more than a nominal amount of lead or mercury; the use of lead and mercury wheel weights are a source of toxic heavy metals leaching into the environment.
<b>Status:</b>	Environment and Transportation Hearing 1/25 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	<a href="#">Support</a>
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Del. Clarence Lam

<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 110</b> <a href="#">Electric Vehicles and Recharging Equipment - Rebates and Tax Credits - Extension</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Extends the Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Rebate Program to 2020, and doubles the amount (from \$1,800,000 to \$3,600,000) that may be issued for the program during a fiscal year
<b>Status:</b>	Ways and Means (Environment and Transportation) Hearing 2/7 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	<a href="#">Support</a>
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Del. David Fraser-Hidalgo

<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 229/ SB 186</b> <a href="#">Environment - Polystyrene Food Service Products and Polystyrene Loose Fill Packaging - Prohibition on Sale</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Prohibiting service of food and beverage in polystyrene products statewide, and sale of polystyrene food containers and packing peanuts.
<b>Status:</b>	Environment and Transportation (Economic Matters) Hearing 2/15 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	<a href="#">Support</a>
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Del. Brooke Lierman/ Sen. Cheryl Kagan



<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 281/ SB 266</b> <a href="#">Environment - On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Best Available Technology for Nitrogen Removal - Prohibition</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Requires the use of Best Available Technology on all new and replacement septic systems statewide
<b>Status:</b>	Environment and Transportation - Hearing 1/31 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	<a href="#">Support</a>
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Del. Steve Lafferty/ Sen. Joan Carter Conway



<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 406/ SB 315</b> <a href="#">Clean Cars Act of 2017</a>
<b>Notes:</b>	Extends the Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Rebate Program to the year 2020, increasing the amount of rebates awarded each year from \$600,000 to \$1,200,000. Increases the amount required to be transferred from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to the Transportation Trust Fund.
<b>Position:</b>	<a href="#">Support</a>
<b>Status:</b>	House – First reading Environment and Transportation
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Speaker/President (by request of the Administration)

<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 417/ SB 314</b> <a href="#">Clean Water Commerce Act of 2017</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Authorizes up to \$10 million from the Bay Restoration Fund, at an unspecified level of priority, for use in purchasing unspecified practices for an unspecified period of time relating generally to the purchase of “nutrient credits.” We oppose this legislation without further regulations and limitations.
<b>Status:</b>	House - First Reading Environment and Transportation
<b>Position:</b>	Oppose
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Speaker/President (by request of the Administration)

<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 504</b> <a href="#">Products That Contain Mercury - Prohibition on Sale of Electric Switches, Electric Relays, and Gas Valve Switches</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Prohibits sale of mercury switches and relays. Switches and relays are the largest tonnage of mercury still in consumer use. There are non-mercury alternatives. Bill includes exception for large, industrial machinery switch and relay replacements.
<b>Status:</b>	House - First Reading Environment and Transportation
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Del. Barbara Robinson

## Ways and Means Committee

<b>Title:</b>	<b>HB 110</b> <a href="#">Electric Vehicles and Recharging Equipment - Rebates and Tax Credits - Extension</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Extends the Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Rebate Program until fiscal year 2020, and increases the amount that can be spent on the program each fiscal year from \$1,800,000 to \$3,600,000.
<b>Status:</b>	Ways and Means (Environmental Matters) - Hearing 2/07 at 1:30 p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Del. David Fraser-Hidalgo

# Maryland Senate

## Budget and Tax Committee

<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 108</b> <a href="#">Property Tax Credit - Erosion Control Measures - Nonstructural Shoreline Stabilization</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Removes outdated tax credits for environmentally harmful structural shoreline stabilization measures such as bulkheads and institute an option for local governments to enact a tax credit for environmentally friendly and resilient living shoreline stabilization.
<b>Status:</b>	Budget and Tax - Hearing 2/01 at 2p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Sen. Bryan Simonaire

<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 170/ HB 150</b> <a href="#">Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2018)</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	We will oppose rollbacks to the legislative legacy of healthy air, clean water, and unpolluted lands. We must remain vigilant in protecting key environmental programs such as Program Open Space or the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bay Trust Fund or Bay Restoration Fund as well as critical resources needed for enforcement and program implementation at the Departments of Environmental, Agriculture, Transportation, Planning, Natural Resources, and Energy.
<b>Status:</b>	House - First Reading Appropriations
<b>Position:</b>	Monitor
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Speaker, President



## Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 29</b> <a href="#">Natural Resources - Forest Conservation Act - Forest Conservation Thresholds and Reforestation Requirements</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Allows local governments to be more stringent than state law on conservation threshold and mitigation requirements. This is already allowed by law, according to the text of the statute and a formal opinion by the Attorney General, but DNR has refused to recognize that interpretation without this clarification.
<b>Status:</b>	Senate - Favorable with Amendments Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs - 01/27/2017
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Sen. Paul Pinsky



<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 186/ HB 229</b> <a href="#">Environment - Polystyrene Food Service Products and Polystyrene Loose Fill Packaging - Prohibition on Sale</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Prohibiting service of food and beverage in polystyrene products statewide, and sale of polystyrene food containers and packing peanuts.
<b>Status:</b>	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs - Hearing 1/31 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Sen. Cheryl Kagan/ Del. Brooke Lierman



<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 266</b> <a href="#">Environment - On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems - Best Available Technology for Nitrogen Removal - Prohibition</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Requires the use of Best Available Technology on all new and replacement septic systems statewide
<b>Status:</b>	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs - Hearing 1/31 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Sen. Joan Carter Conway



<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 280</b> <a href="#">Environment - Nonwoven Disposable Products - Advertising and Labeling</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Requires manufacturers of nonwoven disposable wipes to stop labeling and advertising their products as flushable. The wipes clog toilets, sewer systems, and wastewater treatment facilities because they include plastic fibers, some of which are released into waterways as microplastics.
<b>Status:</b>	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs - Hearing 2/14 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Sen. Guy Guzzone

<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 314/ HB 417</b> <a href="#">Clean Water Commerce Act of 2017</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Authorizes up to \$10 million from the Bay Restoration Fund, at an unspecified level of priority, for use in purchasing unspecified practices for an unspecified period of time relating generally to the purchase of "nutrient credits." We oppose this legislation without further regulations and limitations.
<b>Status:</b>	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs - Hearing 2/14 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Oppose
<b>Sponsor:</b>	President/ Speaker (by request of the Administration)

<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 365</b> <a href="#">Forest Conservation Act - Exemption, Reforestation Rate, and Forest Conservation Fund - Alterations</a>
<b>Notes:</b>	Strengthens the Forest Conservation Act by minimizing an existing exemption, requiring the replanting of one acre of forest for every one acre cleared through development, and adding local flexibility to adjust the fee-in-lieu.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Status:</b>	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs - Hearing 2/07 at 1p.m.
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Sen. Ronald Young



<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 422</b> <a href="#">Keep Antibiotics Effective Act of 2017</a>
<b>Notes:</b>	Restricts the non-therapeutic use of antibiotics for livestock and closes the FDA loophole that allows antibiotics to be used for disease prevention.
<b>Status:</b>	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs - Hearing 2/14 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Sen. Paul Pinsky



## Finance Committee

<b>Title:</b>	<b>SB 184/ HB514</b> <a href="#">Energy Efficiency Programs - Calculation of Program Savings and Consideration of Cost-Effectiveness</a>
<b>Summary:</b>	Codifies key aspects of the Maryland Public Service Commission's (PSC) Order No. 87082 in an effort to ensure the continued success of EmPOWER Maryland, the state's signature energy efficiency program. Specifically, SB 184 would codify the PSC order's requirement that utilities increase their annual energy savings goal to 2% of their retail sales, as well as the order's updated cost-effectiveness criteria. Energy efficiency programs are a critical and cost-effective way to reduce energy consumption, decrease electricity bills, lower greenhouse gas and criteria pollutant emissions, and assure that energy is available for Marylanders at the lowest rates.
<b>Status:</b>	Finance - Hearing 1/31 at 1p.m.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Sen. Thomas Middleton/ Del. Sally Jameson

## Finance Committee

<b>Title:</b>	SB315/ HB406 <a href="#">Clean Cars Act of 2017</a>
<b>Notes:</b>	Extends the Electric Vehicle Recharging Equipment Rebate Program to the year 2020, increasing the amount of rebates awarded each year from \$600,000 to \$1,200,000. Increases the amount required to be transferred from the Strategic Energy Investment Fund to the Transportation Trust Fund.
<b>Position:</b>	Support
<b>Status:</b>	Finance - Hearing 2/14 at 1p.m.
<b>Sponsor:</b>	President/Speaker (by request of the Administration)