



MARYLAND LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

Hot List WEEK of February 18, 2019

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 or 410-280-9855, extension 202.

Maryland League of Conservation Voters distributes our “hotlist” every week, to make sure you know the bills that we are tracking, where they are in the process, and what the environmental position is. Maryland LCV also produces a scorecard at the end of every legislative Session. Scores are drawn from all public record votes (Committee, Floor, Amendment) on every bill that we are tracking.

While not every bill is scored, any bill on our hotlist, or any vote that we communicate with you about by e-mail or through this Hotlist may be scored.

If you would like a bill considered for inclusion on the Hotlist, please contact Kristen Harbeson at kharbeson@mdlcv.org

Maryland House of Delegates

Appropriations Committee

Title:	HB0100/SB0125 – Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2020)
Summary:	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, the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bay Trust Fund, and the Bay Restoration Fund, as well as critical resources needed for enforcement and program implementation at the Departments of Environment, Agriculture, Transportation, Planning, Natural Resources and Energy.
Status:	First Reading – Appropriations
Position:	Monitor
Sponsor:	Speaker/President (by request of the Administration)



Economic Matters Committee



Title:	HB0109/SB0285: Environment – Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Products – Prohibition
Summary:	Prohibiting the sale of Expanded Polystyrene products, including cups, plates, and “to-go” clam shells.
Status:	Already Heard – Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Lierman/Sen. Kagan

Title:	HB0277/SB0249: Regional Transportation and Climate Protection Act of 2019
Summary:	Authorizes the Maryland Governor to enter Maryland into a cross-state regional program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector.
Status:	Hearing 3/6 at 1:00pm – Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Korman/Sen. Lam

Title:	HB0308: Public Service Commission – Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity – Rapid Health Impact Assessment and Final Action
Summary:	Requires applicants for Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity before the Public Service Commission to complete a rapid health impact assessment on the project and report its findings.
Status:	Already Heard – Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. R. Lewis

Title:	HB683/SB520: Electricity-Community Solar Energy Generating Systems Pilot Program – Extension
Summary:	Requires the Public Service Commission to establish a pilot program for energy storage projects, based on the findings of the Power Plant Research Program study released in early February 2019.
Status:	Already Heard – Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Fraser-Hidalgo/Sen. Zirkin

Title:	HB0669/SB0387: Pipeline and Water Protection Act of 2019
Summary:	Requires the Maryland Department of the Environment to conduct 401 Water Quality Certification permit reviews for all natural gas infrastructure projects.
Status:	Hearing 3/7 at 1:00pm – Economic Matters and Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Fraser-Hidalgo/Sen. Zirkin

Title:	HB0683/SB0520: Electricity – Community Solar Energy Generating Systems Pilot Program – Extension
Summary:	Extends and expands the existing community solar pilot project
Status:	Already Heard –Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Clippinger/Sen. Kramer

Title:	HB879/SB910: Ratepayer Reduction for Renewable Energy Act
Summary:	Requires electricity suppliers to utilize long term contracts to purchase a portion of renewable energy and renewable energy credits from eligible sources, including wind, solar, geothermal, ocean, and/or small hydroelectric plants.
Status:	Hearing 3/7 at 1:00pm – Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del Clippinger/Sen. Feldman

Title:	HB961: Public Utilities – Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Tier 1 Sources
Summary:	Removes waste incineration as a tier one energy source within the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard.
Status:	Hearing 3/8 at 1:00pm – Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Dels. Mosby and R. Lewis



Title:	HB1158/ SB516: Clean Energy Jobs
Summary:	Raises the amount of energy Maryland derives from renewable energy sources to 50% by the year 2030; dedicates funding to workforce development programs, especially women-owned, minority-owned, and veteran-owned businesses and expands incentives for solar and wind-energy projects; establishes the requirement for a plan to reach 100% clean energy by the year 2040. We ask for an amendment to phase waste incineration out of tier one energy sources.
Status:	Hearing 3/8 at 1:00pm – Economic Matters
Position:	Support with Amendment
Sponsor:	Dels. Lisanti and Glenn/ Sen. Feldman



Title:	HB1235/ SB702: Healthy Climate Initiative
Summary:	Makes polluters pay a steadily rising fee for emitting carbon pollution. Some of the revenue will be used to invest in vulnerable, front-line communities, and most of it will be returned to Marylanders in a monthly dividend
Status:	Hearing 3/8 at 1:00pm – Economic Matters and Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Fraser-Hidalgo/ Sen. Kramer

Environment and Transportation Committee

Title:	HB0001/SB0145: Natural Resources – Prohibition on Dredging Buried Oyster Shells on Man-o-War Shoals
Summary:	Prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from dredging buried oyster shells on Man–O–War Shoals; and making the Act an emergency measure.
Status:	Already Heard – Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Lafferty/ Sen. Klausmeier

Title:	HB0040: Dredging on Man-o-War Shoals – Prohibition
Summary:	Prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from dredging buried oyster shells on Man–O–War Shoals
Status:	Already Heard – Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Grammar

Title:	HB0066/SB0252: Railroad Company – Movement of Freight – Required Crew
Summary:	Requires at least two crew members on freight and passenger trains, which ensures safer transport of potentially hazardous materials whose environmental impact to local communities and waterways could be severe in case of derailment.
Status:	Already Heard – Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Stein/Sen. Hayes

Title:	HB0109/SB0285: Environment – Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Products – Prohibition
Summary:	Prohibiting the sale of Expanded Polystyrene products, including cups, plates, and “to-go” clam shells
Status:	Already Heard – Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Lierman/Sen. Kagan



Title:	HB0117/SB0003: Smart Growth Investment Fund
Summary:	Public investment in smart growth is critical to recruiting private capital and overcoming some of the barriers to high-quality, compact development in existing communities. This bill would support the protection of our environment and open spaces through disincentivizing sprawl development.
Status:	Already Heard – Environment and Transportation and Ways and Means
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Lafferty/Sen. Rosapepe

Title:	HB0120/SB0203: Natural Resources – No Net Loss of Forest - Definition
Summary:	Corrects definition of Maryland’s “No Net Loss of Forests” goal to include forests and accurately reflect current state coverage of forest land.
Status:	Already Heard – Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Love/Sen. Young

Title:	HB0272/SB0234: Natural Resources – State and Local Forest Conservation Funds
Summary:	Requires local governments to complete the reforestation obligation for which fees were paid and provides for increased transparency and accountability in fee-in-lieu programs.
Status:	Already Heard – Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Lafferty/Sen. Young

Title:	HB0275/SB0270: Pesticides – Use of Chlorpyrifos – Prohibition
Summary:	Bans the use of Chlorpyrifos – a toxic nerve agent pesticide proven to cause brain damage to children, poison farm workers, contaminate waterways, and harm wildlife.
Status:	Already Heard - Environment and Transportation Committee
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Stein/Sen. Nathan-Pulliam

Title:	HB0277/SB0249: Regional Transportation and Climate Protection Act of 2019
Summary:	Authorizes the Maryland Governor to enter Maryland into a cross-state regional program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector.
Status:	Hearing 3/6 at 1:00pm – Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Korman/Sen. Lam

Title:	HB0298/ SB0448: Oysters – Tributary-Scale Sanctuaries – Protection and Restoration
Summary:	Provides permanent protection of restored oyster sanctuaries in five tributaries, protecting public investments and serving as oyster nurseries.
Status:	Hearing 2/22 at 1:00pm – Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Busch/Sen. Pinsky

Title:	HB0377: Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Zones - Revisions
Summary:	Redefines the current definition of a SAV Protection Zone to include all grass beds with a density greater than 10% as mapped by the Virginia Institute of Marine Science annual aerial surveys.
Status:	Already Heard - Environment and Transportation Committee
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Gilchrist

Title:	HB472: Constitutional Amendment – Environmental Rights
Summary:	Establishes a provision within the Maryland Bill of Rights for a constitutionally protected right to a safe, healthy environment, in order to create lasting protections for breathable air and drinkable water. This amendment would make the state a fiduciary for equal access to a healthy environment for present and future generations of Marylanders.
Status:	Hearing 2/20 at 1:00pm – Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Lafferty



Title:	HB0683/SB0520: Electricity – Community Solar Energy Generating Systems Pilot Program – Extension
Summary:	Extends and expands the existing community solar pilot project
Status:	Already Heard –Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Kramer/ Del. Clippinger

Title:	HB0669/SB0387: Pipeline and Water Protection Act of 2019
Summary:	Requires the Maryland Department of the Environment to conduct 401 Water Quality Certification permit reviews for all natural gas infrastructure projects.
Status:	Hearing 3/7 at 1:00pm – Economic Matters and Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Fraser-Hidalgo/Sen. Zirkin

Title:	HB0735/SB0729: Task Force on Forest Conservation in Maryland
Summary:	Creates a Task Force including a diverse group of stakeholders to study deforestation patterns and make recommendations to offset forest loss.
Status:	Hearing 2/22 at 1:00pm – Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Healey/Sen. Guzonne

Title:	HB1235/ SB708: Healthy Climate Initiative
Summary:	Makes polluters pay a steadily rising fee for emitting carbon pollution. Some of the revenue will be used to invest in vulnerable, front-line communities, and most of it will be returned to Marylanders in a monthly dividend
Status:	Hearing 3/8 at 1:00pm – Economic Matters and Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support with Amendment
Sponsor:	Del. Fraser-Hidalgo/ Sen. Kramer

Title:	HB1255: School Bus Purchasing – Zero-Emission Vehicle - Requirement
Summary:	Requires that, beginning October 1, 2022, that all school buses purchased by county boards of education be a zero-emission vehicle, and that all school buses purchased by companies contracted with county boards be zero-emission vehicles.
Status:	Hearing 3/7 at 1:00pm – Ways and Means and Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Fraser-Hidalgo



Health and Government Operations

Title:	HB136/ SB314: Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2019
Summary:	Requires the Department of General Services to establish standards for State buildings to minimize adverse impacts on birds. In addition to protecting migratory birds, these standards promote energy efficiency and cost-reduction.
Status:	Already Heard – Health and Government Operations
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Hill/ Sens. Guzzone and Lam

Rules and Executive Nominations

Title:	HB0246: General Assembly – Fiscal Notes – Environmental Impact Statements
Summary:	Requires analysis of environmental and climate impacts of proposed legislation to be included in fiscal notes submitted in consideration with bills before the General Assembly.
Status:	Hearing 2/25 at 2:00pm – House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Shetty

Ways and Means

Title:	HB0117/SB0003: Smart Growth Investment Fund
Summary:	Public investment in smart growth is critical to recruiting private capital and overcoming some of the barriers to high-quality, compact development in existing communities. This bill would support the protection of our environment and open spaces through disincentivizing sprawl development.
Status:	Already Heard – Environment and Transportation and Ways and Means
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Lafferty/Sen. Rosapepe

Title:	HB1255: School Bus Purchasing – Zero-Emission Vehicle - Requirement
Summary:	Requires that, beginning October 1, 2022, that all school buses purchased by county boards of education be a zero-emission vehicle, and that all school buses purchased by companies contracted with county boards be zero-emission vehicles.
Status:	Hearing 3/7 at 1:00pm – Ways and Means and Environment and Transportation
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Fraser-Hidalgo



Maryland Senate

Budget and Taxation Committee

Title:	SB0125/HB0100 – Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2020)
Summary:	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, the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bay Trust Fund, and the Bay Restoration Fund, as well as critical resources needed for enforcement and program implementation at the Departments of Environment, Agriculture, Transportation, Planning, Natural Resources and Energy.
Status:	First Reading – Budget and Taxation
Position:	Monitor
Sponsor:	President/Speaker (by request of the Administration)



Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Title:	SB0145/ HB0001: Natural Resources – Prohibition on Dredging Buried Oyster Shells on Man-o-War Shoals
Summary:	Prohibiting the Department of Natural Resources from dredging buried oyster shells on Man–O–War Shoals; and making the Act an emergency measure.
Status:	Already Heard – Education, Health and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Klausmeier/ Del. Lafferty

Title:	SB0203/ HB0120: Natural Resources – No Net Loss of Forest - Definition
Summary:	Corrects definition of Maryland’s “No Net Loss of Forests” goal to include forests and accurately reflect current state coverage of forest land.
Status:	Already Heard – Education, Health and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Young/Del. Love

Title:	SB0234/ HB0272: Natural Resources – State and Local Forest Conservation Funds
Summary:	Requires local governments to complete the reforestation obligation for which fees were paid and provides for increased transparency and accountability in fee-in-lieu programs.
Status:	Already Heard – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Young/ Del. Lafferty

Title:	SB0249/ HB0277: Regional Transportation and Climate Protection Act of 2019
Summary:	Authorizes the Maryland Governor to enter Maryland into a cross-state regional program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector.
Status:	Already Heard - Education, Health and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Lam/ Del. Korman

Title:	SB0285/HB0109: Environment – Expanded Polystyrene Food Service Products – Prohibition
Summary:	Prohibiting the sale of Expanded Polystyrene products, including cups, plates, and “to-go” clam shells
Status:	Already Heard – Education, Health and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Kagan/Del. Lierman

Title:	SB0270/HB0275: Pesticides – Use of Chlorpyrifos - Prohibition
Summary:	Bans the use of Chlorpyrifos – a toxic nerve agent pesticide proven to cause brain damage to children, poison farm workers, contaminate waterways, and harm wildlife.
Status:	Hearing 2/27 at 1:00pm – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Nathan-Pulliam/Del. Stein

Title:	SB314/ HB136: Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2019
Summary:	Requires the Department of General Services to establish standards for State buildings to minimize adverse impacts on birds. In addition to protecting migratory birds, these standards promote energy efficiency and cost-reduction.
Status:	Already Heard – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sens. Guzzone and Lam/ Del. Hill

Title:	SB0387/ HB0669: Pipeline and Water Protection Act of 2019
Summary:	Requires the Maryland Department of the Environment to conduct 401 Water Quality Certification permit reviews for all natural gas infrastructure projects.
Status:	Hearing 2/19 at 1:00pm – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Zirkin/Del. Fraser-Hidalgo

Title:	SB0448/ HB0298: Oysters – Tributary-Scale Sanctuaries – Protection and Restoration
Summary:	Provides permanent protection of restored oyster sanctuaries in five tributaries, protecting public investments and serving as oyster nurseries.
Status:	Hearing 2/27 at 1:00pm – Education, Health and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Pinsky/ Del. Busch

Title:	SB0729/ HB0735: Task Force on Forest Conservation in Maryland
Summary:	Creates a Task Force including a diverse group of stakeholders to study deforestation patterns and make recommendations to offset forest loss.
Status:	Hearing 2/19 at 1:00pm – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Guzzone/ Del. Healey

Finance Committee

Title:	SB0003/HB0117: Smart Growth Investment Fund
Summary:	Public investment in smart growth is critical to recruiting private capital and overcoming some of the barriers to high-quality, compact development in existing communities. This bill would support the protection of our environment and open spaces through disincentivizing sprawl development.
Status:	Already Heard– Finance
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Rosapepe/Del. Lafferty

Title:	SB0252/ HB0066: Railroad Company – Movement of Freight – Required Crew
Summary:	Requires at least two crew members on freight and passenger train, which ensures safer transport of potentially hazardous materials whose environmental impact to local communities and waterways could be severe in case of derailment.
Status:	Already Heard - Finance
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Hayes/ Del. Stein

Title:	SB516/HB1158: Clean Energy Jobs
Summary:	Raises the amount of energy Maryland derives from renewable energy sources to 50% by the year 2030; dedicates funding to workforce development programs, especially women-owned, minority-owned, and veteran-owned businesses; phases waste incineration out of tier one energy sources and expands incentives for solar and wind-energy projects; establishes the requirement for a plan to reach 100% clean energy by the year 2040.
Status:	Hearing 3/5 at 1:00pm – Finance
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Feldman/Dels. Lisanti and Glenn



Title:	SB548: Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Eligible Sources
Summary:	Removes waste incineration as a tier one energy source within the Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard.
Status:	Hearing 3/5 at 1:00pm – Finance
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Hough



Title:	HB573/SB0650: Energy Storage Pilot Project Act
Summary:	Requires the Public Service Commission to establish a pilot program for energy storage projects, based on the findings of the Power Plant Research Program study released in early February 2019.
Status:	Hearing 3/5 at 1:00pm – Finance
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Del. Korman/Sen. Feldman

Title:	SB910/ HB879: Ratepayer Reduction for Renewable Energy Act
Summary:	Requires electricity suppliers to utilize long term contracts to purchase a portion of renewable energy and renewable energy credits from eligible sources, including wind, solar, geothermal, ocean, and/or small hydroelectric plants.
Status:	Hearing 3/7 at 1:00pm – Economic Matters
Position:	Support
Sponsor:	Sen. Feldman/ Del. Clippinger

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 created the 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 legislative session.