



# Maryland League of Conservation Voters

The Political Voice of the Environment

## Hot List - WEEK of February 2, 2016

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 this week.

### TO BE INTRODUCED BILLS

<p><b>Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY</b> <i>Support</i> The 2009 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act is set to expire at the end of 2016 unless it is renewed this legislative session. In addition to renewal, we are asking to expand the goals from 25% reduction from peak 2006 levels by the year 2020 to 40% by the year 2030. This bill was co-sponsored by Senate President Miller, and has garnered wide bi-partisan support.</p>	<p>Delegate Barve</p>
<p><b>Clean Energy Jobs Act - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY</b> <i>Support</i> A critical component to the reduction of greenhouse gases is increasing the State's sourcing of energy from renewable sources. Current state goals aim to source 20% renewable sources by the year 2022. The Clean Energy Jobs Act seeks to increase the goal to 25% renewables by the year 2020. The bill also includes a significant investment in workforce development for Minority and Women-Owned Businesses in the renewable energy fields.</p>	<p>Delegate Frick</p>

<p><b>REDUCE Act - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY</b>  <i>Support</i>  Environmental Justice demands that no community or group of people bear the burden of toxic exposures more heavily than any other, and that they share in equal protection under the law. This bill seeks to modify the way that the Maryland Department of the Environment issues permits for four selected categories of industrial development in minority and low-income communities, requiring community input in the re-routing of diesel truck trips that contribute to air pollution and increased asthma and other health risks in already overburdened neighborhoods.</p>	<p>Delegate Lam</p>
<p><b>Poultry Litter Act - MARYLAND LCV PRIORITY</b>  <i>Support</i>  This bill's intent is to relieve the growers from sole responsibility for the burden of managing the phosphorous-rich litter in a region which has limited capacity for any additional such nutrients within the restrictions of the State's EPA mandated pollution diet. This bill would allow the growers the option of selling the litter for fertilizer or to a waste-to-energy facility, however the integrators would be held responsible for any waste that the growers could not, or did not want to, dispose of in an approved manner.</p>	<p>Delegate Lam</p>
<p><b>Program Open Space - MARYLAND LCV PRIORITY</b>  <i>Support</i>  The legislation proposed for 2016 will create the Preservation Trust Fund - a lock-box like protection for Program Open Space. The legislation requires re-payment of previous diversions and canceling pre-authorized diversions of transfer tax revenues established in BRFA's for FY2017 and FY2018, and establishes clear, consistent, and very limited circumstances when funds can be diverted from the Preservation Trust Fund.</p>	<p>Delegate Gaines</p>

## UPCOMING BILLS IN BUDGET AND TAXATION

<p><a href="#">SB 190</a> Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2017) <b>Monitor</b> We will oppose rollbacks to the legislative legacy of healthy air, clean water, and unpolluted lands. On first blush, the Governor seems to have refrained from further borrowing from Program Open Space or the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bay Trust Fund or Bay Restoration Fund, however we must remain vigilant in protecting these programs as well as critical resources needed for the Departments of Environmental, Agriculture, Transportation, Planning, Natural Resources, and Energy to enforce laws.</p>	<p><b>Administration</b> Assigned to Senate Committee: Budget and Taxation</p>
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## UPCOMING BILLS IN EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

<p><a href="#">SB 57</a> - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY Community Cleanup and Greening Act of 2016 <b>Support</b> Bans the free distribution of plastic bags at point-of-sale. A 10-cent fee on paper and reusable bags defrays the additional cost for retailers and supports programs to distribute reusable bags in low-income communities, as well as waterway clean-up efforts.</p>	<p><b>Ramirez</b> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Hearing: February 2 @ 1:00 PM</p>
<p><a href="#">SB 166</a> Land Use Actions - Legislative Bodies - Judicial Review <b>Support</b> Codifies statutory right of review for neighboring property owners harmed by legislative land use action. Current statute grants right of review for neighboring property owners harmed by single zoning land use action.</p>	<p><b>Conway</b> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Hearing: February 2 @ 1:00 PM</p>
<p><a href="#">SB 198</a> - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY Neonicotinoid Pesticides - Labeling, Signage, and Restrictions on Sales and Use (Pollinator Protection Act of 2016) <b>Support</b> Removes neonicotinoid pesticides for residential use, and requires retail level labeling for agricultural suppliers. Neonicotinoid pesticides have been linked to devastating colony collapse of bees and other pollinators.</p>	<p><b>Nathan-Pulliam; Benson; Ferguson; Guzzone; et al.</b> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Hearing: February 16 @ 1:00 PM</p>

<p><b><a href="#">SB 323</a> - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY</b> Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduction Act - Reauthorization</p> <p><b>Support</b></p> <p>The 2009 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act is set to expire at the end of 2016 unless it is renewed this legislative session. In addition to renewal, we are asking to expand the goals from 25% reduction from peak 2006 levels by the year 2020 to 40% by the year 2030. This bill will be a Leadership priority and has garnered wide bi-partisan support.</p>	<p><b>Pinsky; Benson; Brochin; Conway; et al.</b> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Hearing: February 9 @ 1:00 PM</p>
<p><b><a href="#">SB 398</a> - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY</b> Reducing Environmental Degradation for the Underserved Through Community Engagement (The REDUCE Act)</p> <p>Environmental Justice demands that no community or group of people bear the burden of toxic exposures more heavily than any other, and that they share in equal protection under the law. This bill seeks to modify the way that the Maryland Department of the Environment issues permits for four selected categories of industrial development in minority and low-income communities, requiring community input in the re-routing of diesel truck trips that contribute to air pollution and increased asthma and other health risks in already overburdened neighborhoods.</p>	<p><b>Ramirez; Benson; Guzzone; Nathan-Pulliam; et al.</b> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Hearing: February 16 @ 1:00 PM</p>

## UPCOMING BILLS IN FINANCE

<p><b><a href="#">SB 57</a> - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY</b> Community Cleanup and Greening Act of 2016</p> <p><b>Support</b></p> <p>Bans the free distribution of plastic bags at point-of-sale. A 10-cent fee on paper and reusable bags defrays the additional cost for retailers and supports programs to distribute reusable bags in low-income communities, as well as waterway clean-up efforts.</p>	<p><b>Ramirez</b> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Hearing: February 2 @ 1:00 PM</p>
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## UPCOMING BILLS IN APPROPRIATIONS

<p><a href="#">HB 150</a> Budget Bill (Fiscal Year 2017) <b>Monitor</b> We will oppose rollbacks to the legislative legacy of healthy air, clean water, and unpolluted lands. On first blush, the Governor seems to have refrained from further borrowing from Program Open Space or the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bay Trust Fund or Bay Restoration Fund, however we must remain vigilant in protecting these programs as well as critical resources needed for the Departments of Environmental, Agriculture, Transportation, Planning, Natural Resources, and Energy to enforce laws.</p>	<p><b>Administration</b> Assigned to House Committee: Appropriations</p>
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## UPCOMING BILLS IN ECONOMIC MATTERS

<p><a href="#">HB 31</a> - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY Community Cleanup and Greening Act of 2016 <b>Support</b> Bans the free distribution of plastic bags at point-of-sale. A 10-cent fee on paper and reusable bags defrays the additional cost for retailers and supports programs to distribute reusable bags in low-income communities, as well as waterway clean-up efforts.</p>	<p><b>Lierman</b> Environment and Transportation Committee Hearing: February 10 @1:00 PM</p>
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## UPCOMING BILLS IN ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

<p><a href="#">HB 31</a> - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY Community Cleanup and Greening Act of 2016 <b>Support</b> Bans the free distribution of plastic bags at point-of-sale. A 10-cent fee on paper and reusable bags defrays the additional cost for retailers and supports programs to distribute reusable bags in low-income communities, as well as waterway clean-up efforts.</p>	<p><b>Lierman</b> Environment and Transportation Committee Hearing: February 10 @1:00 PM</p>
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<p><a href="#">HB 211</a> - ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY PRIORITY Neonicotinoid Pesticides - Labeling, Signage, and Restrictions on Sales and Use (Pollinator Protection Act of 2016) <i>Support</i> Removes neonicotinoid pesticides for residential use, and requires retail level labeling for agricultural suppliers. Neonicotinoid pesticides have been linked to devastating colony collapse of bees and other pollinators.</p>	<p>Healey; B. Robinson; Beidle; Beitzel; et al. Environment and Transportation Committee Hearing: February 10 @1:00 PM</p>
<p><a href="#">HB 243</a> Land Use Actions - Legislative Bodies - Judicial Review <i>Support</i> Codifies statutory right of review for neighboring property owners harmed by legislative land use action. Current statute grants right of review for neighboring property owners harmed by single zoning land use action.</p>	<p>Lafferty; B. Barnes; Beidle; Carr; et al. Environment and Transportation Committee Hearing: February 9 @1:00 PM</p>