



## Week of January 27, 2020

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.

## MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES

### House Floor

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0720-19/SB0830-19 (Vetoed)</i></b>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Natural Resources – Fishery Management Plans - Oysters</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	The protection of the oyster population in the Chesapeake Bay is essential to the health of this natural resource, which is made possible through this legislation's consensus-based process to recommend a new oyster fishery management plan.	
<b>EQUITY</b>	Healthy oyster populations improve local water quality, providing access to healthy water for recreation and food. Unfortunately, much of the overfishing is concentrated in and around the Lower Eastern Shore, which contains a high proportion of Maryland's underserved communities, including the poorest county in the state.	
<b>STATUS</b>	On the floor – Override vote	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Barve/Elfreth	

### Appropriations

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0192/SB0229</i></b>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2020</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Requires the Maryland Department of General Services to establish standards for state buildings (and those built with 51% or more of state funding) to reduce the amount of energy-inefficient and bird-dangerous glass.	
<b>EQUITY</b>	This bill fights climate change, which disproportionately affects disadvantaged communities. Birds, especially migratory birds, are one of the most abundant connections between nature and disadvantaged neighborhoods.	
<b>STATUS</b>	Hearing February 11, 1pm (HGO)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Hill/Lam-Guzzone	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Health and Government Operations (Appropriations)	



<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0368</i></b>	<b>Maryland LCV Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Transit Safety and Investment Act</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Requires the Governor to appropriate sufficient funding to address the \$2 billion capital needs investment shortfall released by a Departmental report during the Summer of 2019, including both maintenance and enhancement requirements.	
<b>EQUITY</b>	The MTA serves every county in Maryland however is most utilized by low-income residents as a means of transportation to and from job sites. The degradation of the transit infrastructure illustrated by the CNI is most harmful to an already underserved population.	
<b>STATUS</b>	Hearing February 4, 1pm	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Lierman	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Appropriations	

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0432</i></b>	<b>Maryland LCV Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Electric Buses Transition Act</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Requires all buses purchased by the Maryland Department of Transportation beginning in FY22 to be electric.	
<b>EQUITY</b>	Diesel emissions contribute significantly to climate pollution, as well as to the respiratory health of passengers and drivers. This most directly impacts underserved and low-income communities who are more likely to be using public transit.	
<b>STATUS</b>	First Reading – Environment and Transportation (Appropriations)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Korman	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Environment and Transportation (Appropriations)	

## Economic Matters

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0209/SB0313</i></b>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Plastics and Packaging Reduction Act</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Bans plastic bags at check-out, requires 10c cost of paper bags. Requires a workgroup to address single-use plastics pollution and recommendations for reducing disproportionate impact on low-income communities	
<b>EQUITY CONCERNS</b>	Plastic bag pollution is especially pervasive in low-income communities. The requirements of the workgroup, which may begin its work before the implementation date of the ban, will be focused on ensuring that low-income communities are not disproportionately effected by the cost of reusable and paper bags.	
<b>STATUS</b>	Hearing February 11, 1:00pm (ENT)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Lierman/Augustine	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Environment and Transportation (Economic Matters)	



<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB438</i></b>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard – Eligible Sources</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Removes incineration as a tier one resource as a subsidized resource comparable to true clean energy sources such as wind and solar.	
<b>EQUITY CONCERNS</b>	Continued subsidization of trash incineration is a significant environmental injustice, placing a burden of meeting Maryland’s sustainability standards on overburdened communities living under their stacks.	
<b>STATUS</b>	First Reader – Economic Matters	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Mosby	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Economic Matters	

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0531</i></b>	
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Utility Regulation: Consideration of Climate and Labor</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Requires the Public Service Commission to take into account state climate goals in its decision-making, as well as “fair and stable labor standards” in carrying out its authority. Electricity generation is the second largest source of in-state greenhouse gas emissions.	
<b>EQUITY CONCERNS</b>	Maryland’s commitments to mitigate climate change, and thus lessen impacts on disadvantaged communities will be enhanced by requiring the PSC to factor those commitments into its regulation of the energy sector.	
<b>STATUS</b>	First Reader – Economic Matters (Environment and Transportation)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Charkoudian	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Economic Matters (Environment and Transportation)	

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0561/SB0315</i></b>	
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Community Choice Energy</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Enables municipalities across Maryland to set up Community Choice Aggregation/Energy programs, which are alternatives to the investor-owned energy supply system, and can help drive an increase in renewable energy.	
<b>EQUITY CONCERNS</b>	Community Choice Energy would address climate change as well as the financial burden of high energy bills on low-income Marylanders.	
<b>STATUS</b>	First Reader – Economic Matters	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Charkoudian/Beidle	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Economic Matters	



## Environment & Transportation

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>SB0313/ HB0209</i></b>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Plastics and Packaging Reduction Act</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Bans plastic bags at check-out, requires 10c cost of paper bags. Requires a workgroup to address single-use plastics pollution and recommendations for reducing disproportionate impact on low-income communities	
<b>EQUITY CONCERNS</b>	Plastic bag pollution is especially pervasive in low-income communities. The requirements of the workgroup, which may begin its work before the implementation date of the ban, will be focused on ensuring that low-income communities are not disproportionately affected by the cost of reusable and paper bags.	
<b>STATUS</b>	Hearing February 11, 1:00pm (ENT)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Lierman/Augustine	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Environment and Transportation (Economic Matters)	

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0229/SB0300</i></b>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Pesticides – Use of Chlorpyrifos – Prohibition</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Bans a pesticide known to be toxic at all exposures, and linked to significant adverse health impacts in infants	
<b>EQUITY</b>	Among the populations impacted by remaining agricultural use of chlorpyrifos are migrant farm workers, perpetuating additional negative health effects on already vulnerable populations	
<b>STATUS</b>	Hearing Date February 11, 1:00pm	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Stein/Lam	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Environment and Transportation	

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0432</i></b>	<b>Maryland LCV Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Electric Buses Transition Act</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Requires all buses purchased by the Maryland Department of Transportation beginning in FY22 to be electric.	
<b>EQUITY</b>	Diesel emissions contribute significantly to climate pollution, as well as to the respiratory health of passengers and drivers. This most directly impacts underserved and low-income communities who are more likely to be using public transit.	
<b>STATUS</b>	First Reading – Environment and Transportation (Appropriations)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Korman	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Environment and Transportation (Appropriations)	



<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0531</i></b>	
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Utility Regulation – Consideration of Climate and Labor</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Requires the Public Service Commission to take into account state climate goals in its decision-making, as well as “fair and stable labor standards” in carrying out its authority. Electricity generation is the second largest source of in-state greenhouse gas emissions.	
<b>EQUITY CONCERNS</b>	Maryland’s commitments to mitigate climate change, and thus lessen impacts on disadvantaged communities will be enhanced by requiring the PSC to factor those commitments into its regulation of the energy sector.	
<b>STATUS</b>	First Reader – Economic Matters (Environment and Transportation)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Charkoudian	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Economic Matters (Environment and Transportation)	

## Health and Government Operations

<b>BILL #</b>	<b><i>HB0192/SB0229</i></b>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2020</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Requires the Maryland Department of General Services to establish standards for state buildings (and those built with 51% or more of state funding) to reduce the amount of energy-inefficient and bird-dangerous glass.	
<b>EQUITY</b>	This bill fights climate change, which disproportionately affects disadvantaged communities. Birds, especially migratory birds, are one of the most abundant connections between nature and disadvantaged neighborhoods.	
<b>STATUS</b>	Hearing February 11, 1pm (HGO)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Hill/Lam-Guzzone	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Health and Government Operations (Appropriations)	



## MARYLAND SENATE

### Senate Floor

<b>BILL #</b>	<i>HB0720-19/SB0830-19 (Vetoed)</i>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Natural Resources – Fishery Management Plans – Oysters</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	The protection of the oyster population in the Chesapeake Bay is essential to the health of this natural resource, which is made possible through this legislation’s consensus-based process to recommend a new oyster fishery management plan.	
<b>EQUITY</b>	Healthy oyster populations improve local water quality, providing access to healthy water for recreation and food. Unfortunately, much of the overfishing is concentrated in and around the Lower Eastern Shore, which contains a high proportion of Maryland’s underserved communities, including the poorest county in the state.	
<b>STATUS</b>	On the floor – Override vote	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Elfreth/Barve	

### Education Health and Environmental Affairs

<b>BILL #</b>	<i>SB0299/ HB0192</i>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Maryland Sustainable Buildings Act of 2020</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Requires the Maryland Department of General Services to establish standards for state buildings (and those built with 51% or more of state funding) to reduce the amount of energy-inefficient and bird-dangerous glass.	
<b>EQUITY</b>	This bill fights climate change, which disproportionately affects disadvantaged communities. Birds, especially migratory birds, are one of the most abundant connections between nature and disadvantaged neighborhoods.	
<b>STATUS</b>	Hearing February 11, 1pm (HGO)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Lam-Guzzone/ Hill/	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Education, Health and Environmental Affairs	



<b>BILL #</b>	<b>SB0300/ HB0229</b>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Pesticides – Use of Chlorpyrifos – Prohibition</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Bans a pesticide known to be toxic at all exposures, and linked to significant adverse health impacts in infants	
<b>EQUITY</b>	Among the populations impacted by remaining agricultural use of chlorpyrifos are migrant farm workers, perpetuating additional negative health effects on already vulnerable populations.	
<b>STATUS</b>	Hearing Date February 11, 1:00pm	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Stein/Lam	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Environment and Transportation	

## Finance

<b>BILL #</b>	<b>SB0313/ HB0209</b>	<b>Environmental Community Priority</b>
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Plastics and Packaging Reduction Act</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Bans plastic bags at check-out, requires 10c cost of paper bags. Requires a workgroup to address single-use plastics pollution and recommendations for reducing disproportionate impact on low-income communities	
<b>EQUITY CONCERNS</b>	Plastic bag pollution is especially pervasive in low-income communities. The requirements of the workgroup, which may begin its work before the implementation date of the ban, will be focused on ensuring that low-income communities are not disproportionately affected by the cost of reusable and paper bags.	
<b>STATUS</b>	Hearing February 11, 1:00pm (ENT)	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Lierman/Augustine	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Environment and Transportation (Economic Matters)	

<b>BILL #</b>	<b>SB0315/ HB0561</b>	
<b>TITLE</b>	<b>Community Choice Energy</b>	
<b>SUMMARY</b>	Enables municipalities across Maryland to set up Community Choice Aggregation/Energy programs, which are alternatives to the investor-owned energy supply system, and can help drive an increase in renewable energy.	
<b>EQUITY CONCERNS</b>	Community Choice Energy would address climate change as well as the financial burden of high energy bills on low-income Marylanders.	
<b>STATUS</b>	First Reader – Finance	
<b>POSITION</b>	Support	
<b>SPONSOR</b>	Beidle/ Charkoudian	
<b>COMMITTEE</b>	Finance	



MARYLAND LEAGUE  
OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

# HOTLIST

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 for those bills. 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](mailto:kharbeson@mdlcv.org)