



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 would deliver the Hot List to your office every Tuesday however, this year, it will 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 410-952-8100

MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES

Appropriations

BILL #	HB114/SB199
TITLE	Transit Safety and Investment Act of 2021
SUMMARY	Mandates \$123 from the Transportation Trust Fund annually for six years to address transit "state of good repair needs identified by the MTA.
EQUITY	Because a safer and more reliable transit system will support middle-class jobs – many held by women and people of color – this bill goes directly to assisting low-wealth communities.
STATUS	Bill Hearing – February 3 at 1:30pm
POSITION	Support – Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Lierman/McCray
COMMITTEE	Appropriations



Maryland LCV
Priority

BILL #	HB334/SB137
TITLE	Zero-Emission Bus Transition Act of 2021
SUMMARY	Requires all buses purchased by the Maryland Department of Transportation beginning in 2024 to be electric, leading to a complete transition by 2035.
EQUITY	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.
STATUS	First Reading – Environment and Transportation and Appropriations
POSITION	Support – Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Korman/Zucker
COMMITTEE	Environment and Transportation (Appropriations)



Maryland LCV
Priority



Economic Matters

BILL #	HB314/SB223
TITLE	Plastics Pollution Reduction Act
SUMMARY	Bans plastic bags at check-out, allows jurisdictions with existing fees to continue collecting fees on paper bags. Under current law, jurisdictions must seek enabling legislation for specific taxing authority – including fees on paper at check-out. This bill would change the law to require jurisdictions to seek enabling legislation to set a price floor for retailers.
EQUITY	Plastic bag pollution is especially pervasive in low-income communities. As amended, the workgroup focused on ensuring that low-income communities are not disproportionately affected by the cost of reusable and paper bags has been removed.
STATUS	Bill Hearing – January 28 at 1:30 (ENT)
POSITION	Support- Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Lierman/Augustine
COMMITTEE	Environment and Transportation (Economic Matters)

BILL #	HB583/SB0414
TITLE	Climate Solutions Now Act of 2021
SUMMARY	The bill changes Maryland’s greenhouse gas reduction requirements to 60% below 2006 levels by 2030 and net-zero by 2045. The bill also calls on the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities to determine the percentage of state funds spent on climate change that must go to environmental justice communities. It also creates a work group to protect impacted workers. Finally, the bill provides several low-cost mitigation policies, including tree plantings in underserved urban areas and a shift to zero-emission busses.
EQUITY	This bill addresses environmental injustices by: 1) reducing the emission causing climate impacts disproportionately in low-wealth communities and communities of color 2) ensures a portion of state climate funds are spent on environmental justice communities, 3) helps create jobs at all levels, and 4) invests in tree-planting, focusing on underserved, urban communities.
STATUS	First Reading Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters
POSITION	Support – Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Stein/Pinsky
COMMITTEE	Environment and Transportation (Economic Matters)



**Maryland LCV
Priority**



Environment and Transportation

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EQUITY	Litter has a disproportionate impact on communities that lack adequate public services and have more blight. Studies demonstrate that it contributes to impaired mental health and quality of life.
STATUS	Bill Hearing – January 28 at 1:30 (ENT)
POSITION	Support- Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Lierman/Augustine
COMMITTEE	Environment and Transportation (Economic Matters)

BILL #	HB334/SB137
TITLE	Zero-Emission Bus Transition Act of 2021
SUMMARY	Requires all buses purchased by the Maryland Department of Transportation beginning in 2024 to be electric, leading to a complete transition by 2035
EQUITY	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.
STATUS	First Reading – Environment and Transportation and Appropriations
POSITION	Support – Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Korman/Zucker
COMMITTEE	Environment and Transportation (Appropriations)



**Maryland LCV
Priority**



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STATUS	First Reading Environment and Transportation and Economic Matters
POSITION	Support - Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Stein/Pinsky
COMMITTEE	Environment and Transportation (Economic Matters)



**Maryland LCV
Priority**

Health and Government Operations

BILL #	HB22/SB195
TITLE	Stop PFAS Pollution Act
SUMMARY	Per-and-polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, are a family of approximately 5,000 man-made organic chemicals used in myriad consumer products. Because of their unique carbon-fluorine bonds, PFAS are resistant to degradation in the environment, can persist for decades in water and air, and accumulate in our bodies over time. This bill comprehensively addresses PFAS contamination by adopting some of the country's strongest PFAS policies.
EQUITY	We don't yet know what the scope of our PFAS pollution problem in Maryland, although the substance is present throughout the state in waterways and aquatic life that people eat. Generally speaking, communities of color are disproportionately impacted by toxic chemical exposure in consumer products, homes, and water.
STATUS	Bill Hearing - February 2 at 3:45pm
POSITION	Support- Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Love/Elfreth
COMMITTEE	Health and Government Operations



MARYLAND SENATE

Budget and Tax

BILL #	SB199/ HB114
TITLE	Transit Safety and Investment Act of 2021
SUMMARY	Mandates \$123 from the Transportation Trust Fund annually for six years to address transit "state of good repair needs identified by the MTA.
EQUITY	Because a safer and more reliable transit system will support middle-class jobs – many held by women and people of color – this bill goes directly to assisting low-wealth communities.
STATUS	Bill Hearing – January 27 at 1:00pm
POSITION	Support – Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	McCray/Lierman
COMMITTEE	Budget and Tax



Maryland LCV
Priority

BILL #	HB334/SB137
TITLE	Zero-Emission Bus Transition Act of 2021
SUMMARY	Requires all buses purchased by the Maryland Department of Transportation beginning in 2024 to be electric, leading to a complete transition by 2035
EQUITY	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.
STATUS	Bill Hearing: January 28 th at 11 am (EHEA)
POSITION	Support – Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Korman/Zucker
COMMITTEE	Education, Health and Environmental Affairs (Budget and Tax)



Maryland LCV
Priority



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TITLE	Climate Solutions Now Act of 2021
SUMMARY	The bill changes Maryland's greenhouse gas reduction requirements to 60% below 2006 levels by 2030 and net-zero by 2045. The bill also calls on the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities to determine the percentage of state funds spent on climate change that must go to environmental justice communities. It also creates a work group to protect impacted workers. Finally, the bill provides several low-cost mitigation policies, including tree plantings in underserved urban areas and a shift to zero-emission busses.
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STATUS	Bill Hearing: January 28 th at 11 am (EHEA)
POSITION	Support – Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Pinsky/Stein
COMMITTEE	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs (Budget and Tax)



Maryland LCV
Priority

Finance

BILL #	SB223/ HB314
TITLE	Plastics Pollution Reduction Act
SUMMARY	Bans plastic bags at check-out, allows jurisdictions with existing fees to continue collecting fees on paper bags. Under current law, jurisdictions must seek enabling legislation for specific taxing authority – including fees on paper at check-out. This bill would change the law to require jurisdictions to seek enabling legislation to set a price floor for retailers.
EQUITY	Litter has a disproportionate impact on communities that lack adequate public services and have more blight. Studies demonstrate that it contributes to impaired mental health and quality of life.
STATUS	Bill Hearing – January 28 at 1:00
POSITION	Support– Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Augustine/ Lierman
COMMITTEE	Finance



Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

BILL #	SB195/ HB22
TITLE	Stop PFAS Pollution Act
SUMMARY	Per-and-polyfluoroalkyl substances, or PFAS, are a family of approximately 5,000 man-made organic chemicals used in myriad consumer products. Because of their unique carbon-fluorine bonds, PFAS are resistant to degradation in the environment, can persist for decades in water and air, and accumulate in our bodies over time. This bill comprehensively addresses PFAS contamination by adopting some of the country's strongest PFAS policies.
EQUITY	We don't yet know what the scope of our PFAS pollution problem in Maryland, although the substance is present throughout the state in waterways and aquatic life that people eat. Generally speaking, communities of color are disproportionately impacted by toxic chemical exposure in consumer products, homes, and water.
STATUS	Bill Hearing – January 28 th at 11:00am
POSITION	Support– Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Elfreth/Love
COMMITTEE	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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POSITION	Support– Environmental Community Priority
SPONSOR	Korman/Zucker
COMMITTEE	Education, Health and Environmental Affairs (Budget and Tax)



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Priority**



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SPONSOR	Pinsky/Stein
COMMITTEE	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs (Budget and Tax)



**Maryland LCV
Priority**

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