

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2017 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader**

House Bill 1440 (Calvert County Delegation)  
Environment and Transportation Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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**Calvert County - Solid Waste Disposal Contracts**

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This bill authorizes Calvert County to enter into a contract for solid waste disposal that (1) may include transportation; (2) may require payment of funds from county appropriations or receipt of payment to the county; and (3) is for no more than a 20-year initial term.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill does not materially affect State finances or operations.

**Local Effect:** Minimal overall, but potential decrease in expenditures for Calvert County to the extent that the county is able to negotiate lower prices for transportation and disposal under a solid waste disposal contract by committing to a longer term contract with a disposal facility.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law/Background:** When it is advantageous to the county to do so, Calvert County is authorized to contract to purchase supplies or services for periods of more than one year if (1) funds for the total cost of the contract are available at the time the contract is executed or (2) the commissioners approve a contract requiring the payment of funds from appropriations of more than one fiscal year, and the contract is not for more than a three-year term.

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) advises that Calvert County has a permitted municipal waste landfill at Lusby, which is co-located with a solid waste transfer station operated on the county's behalf by Waste Management, Inc. (WM). To preserve the life of the landfill, and to take advantage of lower out-of-state disposal costs, for many years, the waste from the county has been transferred through the transfer station to a landfill in Virginia for disposal. The county's contract with WM is currently set to expire during 2017, with the option to extend it until 2022.

MDE notes that longer solid waste contracts are often advantageous for counties, as they can negotiate lower prices for transportation and disposal by committing to a longer term contract with the disposal facility.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Calvert County; Maryland Department of the Environment; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 8, 2017  
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