



MARYLAND LEAGUE
OF CONSERVATION VOTERS

Board of Directors

February 12, 2020

Ed Hatcher, *Chair*

SUPPORT HB299: Pesticides – Use of Chlorpyrifos - Prohibition

Maris St. Cyr, *Vice Chair*

Dear Chairman Pinsky and members of the Committee:

Mike Davis, *Treasurer*

The Hon. Virginia Claggett

Maryland League of Conservation Voters strongly urges your support of HB299 Pesticides – Use of Chlorpyrifos – Prohibition, and we thank Vice Chairman Stein for his leadership on this issue. HB299 and its Senate cross-file are priorities of Maryland LCV and of the Citizen’s Campaign for the Environment (CCE), a table of 30 organizations working on statewide environmental policy.

Bob Fleshner

Verna Harrison Pelrine

Melanie Hartwig-Davis

Lynn Heller

Maryland LCV is one member of the Smart on Pesticides, a coalition of 94 organizations and institutions representing diverse interests in the environmental, health, agricultural, and faith communities. We stand together to urge the passage of HB299, in order to ban the use of Chlorpyrifos.

Bonnie Norman

Candace Dodson Reed

Kitty Thomas

In 2000, Dow Chemical and other manufacturers stopped the use of chlorpyrifos due to the risk to children’s health. In 2014, the EPA released an assessment that demonstrated correlation between Chlorpyrifos and brain damage in children at low exposure, prompting the agency to propose a complete, nationwide ban of the product. Additional data released in 2016 supported this action. The science demonstrates that Chlorpyrifos is a proven to cause brain damage in children, contaminate waterways, and harm wildlife.

Kim Coble
Executive Director

Banning chlorpyrifos in Maryland would protect the health and safety of our communities, our families, our wildlife and our waterways. The Maryland General Assembly must lead the way to follow the science and protect its people from this dangerous chemical.

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For both environmental and public health concerns, Maryland LCV strongly urges a favorable report on this important piece of legislation.

Thank you.

Maryland League of Conservation Voters