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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB313

February 20, 2020 Senate Finance Committee

Chairwoman Delores Kelley & Members of the Committee:

I am writing to urge your support of SB313, which would prohibit the use of plastic bags. As a resident of Cambridge, Md. I often see plastic bags in fields and in the Choptank River. As you know, these end up in the Chesapeake Bay, which is an endangered vital resource. With proposed cut-backs in Bay restoration in the federal budget, it is even more important that state and local governments act to protect the Chesapeake. As we say in Cambridge, “Water Moves Us.” It is not just for aesthetic reasons that we want to keep our waterways free of plastic bags, but because they harm the crabs and oysters that keep our economy moving as well.

Our city has been providing “poop stations” for dog walkers that provide recyclable plastic bags for cleaning up after our pets. Every small step contributes to larger change to save our planet.

Thank you for voting to ban plastic bags.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Katie Day

Charles A. Schieren Professor Emerita of Church and Society
United Lutheran Seminary, Philadelphia