BALTIMORE COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY People • Planet • Prosperity

February 28, 2022

Delegate and Committee Chair Kumar Barve Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee

RE: **Support** for HB1070, Solid Waste Disposal and Diversion and On–Farm Composting and Compost Use

Dear Chair Barve and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee,

We are writing in support of HB1070, Solid Waste Disposal and Diversion and On–Farm Composting and Compost Use.

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability is a body appointed by the Mayor to oversee the creation and implementation of the Baltimore Sustainability Plan. The 2019 Baltimore Sustainability Plan addresses a wide range of social, economic and environmental goals for the City, and it does so through an equity lens.

The Baltimore Commission on Sustainability has a strong interest in the success of HB1070. The 2019 Sustainability Plan is committed to Zero Waste. The support that HB1070 can provide will help the private sector contribute to the local infrastructure needed to divert food and other waste from our landfill and incinerator. This bill is important for racial equity in Baltimore in that it will build Baltimore City's capacity to manage its waste without incineration, which adds to the disproportionate respiratory disease burden of the surrounding neighborhoods, and it can help entrepreneurs with less access to capital build businesses that respond to local needs.

We urge the Committee to support HB1070.

Sincerely,

Miriam Avins Mia Blom Co-chairs, Commission on Sustainability

Cc: Delegate Regina T. Boyce