



**The Maryland Department of the Environment
Secretary Serena McIlwain**

Senate Bill 1074

Agriculture - Food Processing Residuals Utilization Permit - Establishment

Position: Support
Committee: Environment and Transportation
Date: March 27, 2024
From: Gabrielle Leach

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) **SUPPORTS** SB 1074 as amended.

Bill Summary

Senate Bill 1074 would create a permitting regime for a person who utilizes food processing residuals (FPRs) as defined in law. The bill would also authorize the Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) to conduct a pre-inspection prior to the utilization of any FPRs. If a person is storing food residuals, they will be required to meet the Natural Resource Conservation Service standards or an equivalent standard determined by a professional engineer. Any application of food residuals will have to be managed consistently with a nutrient management plan and required record keeping. MDA also has the ability to take samples of the food processing residuals and revoke a permit to apply FPRs to land, if necessary. In addition, MDA has the authority to impose an administrative penalty.

Position Rationale

MDE supports SB 1074, as it would provide additional standards on persons who are utilizing food processing residuals, which include Dissolved Air Flotation (DAF) materials. These additional standards should help assure surrounding communities that food processing residuals are being managed in a responsible manner.

For the reasons detailed above, MDE asks for a **FAVORABLE** report for SB 1074.