

February 18, 2025

Chairman Brian Feldman Senate Education, Energy and Environment Committee 2 West Miller Senate Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

REF: SB345 - Pesticides - PFAS Chemicals - Prohibitions - <u>Unfavorable Report</u>

Madam Chair and Members of the Committee,

My name is Mark Schlossberg and I am president of the Maryland Association of Green Industries, Inc. (MAGI). We represent lawn care operators, golf course superintendents, pest control operators in Maryland and various suppliers.

Though we are concerned about the health effects of PFAS chemicals in Maryland and around the country, we do not feel that the science is sound enough to have outright bans of some of the important products we use. You will hear from some of our members organizations and manufacturers representatives with more detail but I will say regarding lawn care, one of the most important products we use to control crabgrass, stiltgrass and other invasive summer annual grassy weeds is on the list- prodiamine. There are other products that we use that are also used by golf course and pest control operators/exterminators that are very important to maintaining the properties we are hired to take care of.

All the pesticides (herbicides, fungicides, insecticides, rodenticides, etc.) we use go through extensive testing and must be re-registered after a certain amount of time goes by to make sure the products are safe to use when used according to label instructions. All of us who are professionals in the industry are keenly aware that we must follow label instructions to minimize any risk to the public and the environment. We feel like the federal government should be leading the way on this through sound non-biased science.

We respectfully ask the committee for an **Unfavorable Report**.

Thank you.

Mark I. Schlossberg, President