



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

*Environmental Protection and Restoration
Environmental Education*

House Bill 77

Anne Arundel County- Illegal Dumping and Litter Control Law-Adoption of Local Ordinance

CBF POSITION: **SUPPORT**

TO: Environment and Transportation Committee

DATE: February 19, 2020

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) SUPPORTS HB 77. This bill would authorize the governing body of Anne Arundel County to adopt an ordinance to prohibit littering and impose criminal and civil penalties for violations, but not to exceed existing penalties under the current statute.

Trash is one of the most ubiquitous and visible pollutants in our communities. Litter causes a number of economic and environmental ills, from reducing property values and increasing crime, to killing wildlife and releasing a number of harmful chemicals and byproducts into our environment and waterways.

This bill would start the process towards resolving some of the major illegal dumping problems around Anne Arundel County and other jurisdictions in the State of Maryland.

A favorable report for HB77 would not only provide valuable information on where significant illegal dumping is happening, but also inform remediation and enforcement in response to this dumping.

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation supports legislation like this that not only addresses litter at the local level but works with jurisdictions around the state to reduce waste through enforcement.

HB77 enables Anne Arundel County to better address litter and reduce waste that deteriorates communities and harms the environment. **For these reasons, CBF SUPPORTS HB 77 and urges a FAVORABLE report.** For more information, please contact Carmera Thomas, Baltimore Program Manager at 443.482.2011 or carmerathomas@cbf.org.

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The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is a non-profit environmental education and advocacy organization dedicated to the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay. With over 300,000 members and e-subscribers, including over 107,000 in Maryland alone, CBF works to educate the public and to protect the interest of the Chesapeake and its resources.