



## Maryland Municipal League

*The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns*

# TESTIMONY

March 31, 2021

**Committee:** Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs

**Bill:** HB 92 – Procurement – Invasive and Nonnative Plant Species – Prohibition on Use of State Funds

**Position:** Support as Amended

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League supports HB 92 as amended. As introduced, the bill would have prohibited State funds from being spent on invasive and nonnative plant species and required the Board of Public Works to both maintain a list of native plants and rule on potential exemptions.

MML is supportive of the bill's intent to promote the preservation of native habits and are hopeful that this legislation incentivizes local nurseries to include more native species. As drafted, the League was concerned about the exemption process for nonnative plants – specifically, that the Board of Public Works may not be as responsive as a State agency or have the necessary expertise to properly weigh those exemptions. However, this concern is resolved by the House amendments as the bill now only prohibits funding for invasive species.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League respectfully requests a favorable committee report for HB 92 as amended.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

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