

# MARYLAND RETAILERS ASSOCIATION

*The Voice of Retailing in Maryland*



## **SB116 Department of the Environment – Office of Recycling – Recycling Market Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee**

**January 21, 2021**

**Position:** Support

**Background:** SB116 would require the State Office of Recycling to research, report on, and promote the development of recycling markets in Maryland.

**Comments:** The Maryland Retailers Association enthusiastically supports SB116, which would encourage and promote the development of more recycling markets in Maryland in order to allow for a wider variety of waste items to be recycled in the state. Investment in recycling infrastructure as an alternative to banning single-use products is good for the environment, for consumers, and for businesses.

Investing in Maryland's recycling infrastructure will not only decrease our reliance on foreign markets but will create jobs and provide more opportunities for Marylanders to make thoughtful choices about what they buy and how they use and dispose of items. Increasing the variety of items that can be recycled in the state will allow Marylanders to buy the products they need from local businesses and later dispose of them in a manner that is positive for the environment and could boost other items that are manufactured with recycled material.

Thank you for your consideration, and we respectfully urge a favorable report on SB116.