

2/22/221

Good Afternoon Chairpersons and Committee,

Thank you for taking the time to hear and take action on SB716 - Solid Waste Management – Prohibition on Releasing a Balloon Into the 3 Atmosphere ...

We recognize the deleterious impacts that marine debris, including balloons, has on wildlife and their habitats, leading to an alarming natural resource concern throughout the state. Marine debris harms land and ocean-based habitat through smothering and abrasion and impacts a variety of wildlife through ingestion and entanglement.

SB716 gives “teeth” to the laws being passed to protect wildlife and human interests. With education and enforcement, I believe passing SB716 will be a deterrent and have a positive effect for wildlife, the environment and residents of the state of Maryland.

Thank you again for hearing and voting in favor of Senate Bill 716.

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