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VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Senate Bill 195

Dear Chairman Pinsky:

This letter is written on behalf of the Maryland Industrial Technology Alliance (“MITA”), a non-profit trade association representing industrial, manufacturing, and supporting businesses operating in Maryland **opposing Senate Bill 195**, which would prohibit certain fire-fighting foams, rugs, and food packaging containing PFAS chemicals. MITA opposes this bill and requests an Unfavorable Report for the following reasons:

- Maryland enacted similar legislation last legislative session banning various flame-retardant chemicals (HB424/SB447), which has not yet gone into effect. This legislation will address several areas addressed in SB195.
- SB195 defines “food package” broadly to include virtually all food packaging and component parts, as well as plastic disposable gloves used in commercial or institutional food service. This broad definition may have unintended consequences by banning materials that are otherwise safe.
- As drafted, SB195 would ban the sale and distribution of food packaging or any product in a food package to which PFAS chemicals were intentionally added on and after January 1, 2022. This is exceptionally fast phase-out and may harm producers and businesses that rely on these products.

For these reasons, MITA respectfully request that you give SB 195 an **Unfavorable Report**.

Very truly yours,

/s/

Todd R. Chason

cc: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee Members