



**Braven  
Environmental**

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RE: MD H.B.0021: Environment – Recycling – Prohibition on the Chemical Conversion of Plastic

Maryland Legislature

Mr. Chairman Kumar Barve and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee,

We are writing to express our opposition to HB 21. Advanced Recycling (AR) is a proven, scalable and commercially viable technology that can redirect difficult to recycle plastics away from landfills and other traditional disposal options to facilities that can safely and efficiently produce derivative products used by petrochemical companies to make new plastics, therefore supporting the closed-looped plastics economy and reducing the use of traditional fossil fuels to make new plastics.

These difficult to recycle plastics had been, prior to 2018, shipped to China and other markets. Since that has ended, it now needs to be a priority to find alternative solutions of disposal. AR is a part of that solution, complementing mechanical recycling and therefore significantly increasing the secondary useful life of both post-consumer and post-industrial difficult to recycle plastics.

Advanced Recycling should be included in the definition of “recycling” and ways to expand the deployment of the technology should be implemented. It is important to note that advanced recycling technologies, which allow the



conversion of plastics in an oxygen deprived environment, are very much distinct from incineration, which involves combustion of a substance in an oxygen rich environment. Advanced recycling will be critical component to addressing the nation's plastic waste challenges. Therefore, legislation blocking the development and deployment of AR is counterproductive and misguided.

Braven has developed leading AR technology over the last ten years, operates an AR facility in Zebulon, North Carolina, and is building a network of facilities across the country (including the state of Virginia) to directly provide an impactful solution in the disposition of hard to recycle plastics today.

Respectfully urging a blocking of this legislation.

Sincerely,  
Michael Moreno  
Chief Operating Officer

