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**Important Bird Area Program**  
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February 22, 2021

**The Maryland House of Delegates**  
**Committee on Environment and Transportation**

**HB1025 Carbofuran Prohibition on Collection and Storage**

**Position: Support**

Carbofuran has been responsible for killing at least 30 bald eagles and hundreds of other species, including owls, over the past decade.

For this reason, Audubon Maryland-DC asks you to vote HB1025 out of committee and onto the floor. We are one of 22 state programs of the National Audubon Society with approximately 19,000 members in Maryland.

By federal and state law, this pesticide is not allowed to be used or sold, but it remains legal in Maryland to own or store. Yet carbofuran continues to be used illegally. This bill would require the removal of stocks of this already banned pesticide which threatens people, pets, livestock, and wildlife, including bald eagles and multiple bird species. HB1025 would make it illegal to own the chemical, resulting in its removal and proper disposal to protect our communities and ecosystems.

A single grain of carbofuran granular pesticide can kill any bird. But because birds often fly from the scene, scientists estimate that actual deaths from this pesticide are approximately 8,000 times higher than what is known. Currently, when an eagle poisoning is investigated by officials, they often can determine the cause of death, but cannot confiscate any carbofuran they find because possession is still legal.

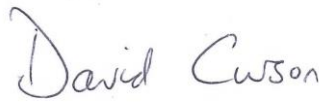
A powerful neurotoxin, carbofuran poses a danger to human health. According to the EPA, it's highly mobile in soils and has been commonly found in groundwater and waterways. Stored carbofuran is hazardous even on the shelf, where thin paper packaging deteriorates and puts people and wildlife at risk.

HB1025 would finally prohibit a person from possessing or storing any quantity of carbofuran after January 1, 2021 and authorize MDA or DNR to seize and remove the pesticide.

For the sake of birds, people, and other species, please FOR prohibiting possession of this chemical.

Sincerely,

David Curson, PhD

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "David Curson". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first name and last name clearly legible.

Director of Bird Conservation  
Audubon Maryland-DC