



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary

February 24, 2021

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Dana Stein
Vice Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Information – House Bill 1025 – Pesticides – Carbofuran – Collection, Disposal, and Prohibition on Possession or Storage

Dear Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources provides the following information on House Bill 1025. This bill would require the Maryland Department of Agriculture, in coordination with the department, to establish a program to address the illegal use of carbofuran and to eliminate stockpiles of carbofuran in the state.

Carbofuran is a pesticide extremely lethal to birds, especially birds of prey. The illegal use of granular carbofuran resulted in the death of 36 bald eagles and 5 golden eagles in Maryland since 1988. Even though the use of this pesticide for agricultural purposes has been prohibited since 2009, there has still been illegal use of carbofuran in Maryland. Of the total eagles killed by this pesticide in Maryland, 19 eagles have died from carbofuran poisoning after the prohibition of this pesticide's use. The single largest mortality event occurred in 2016 when 13 bald eagles were found dead in a field in Caroline County.

Thank you for allowing the department to submit the above information on HB 1025 for the committee's careful consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

James W. McKitrick
Director, Legislative and Constituent Service

Contact: James McKitrick, Director, Legislative and Constituent Services
JamesW.McKitrick@maryland.gov ♦ 443-510-5013