



January 25, 2021

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

**Oppose: HB 264 – Organics Recycling and Waste Diversion – Food Residuals**

Dear Chair, Barve and Committee Members:

During the 2019 session, NAIOP actively worked to pass Senate Bill 370 / Chapter 500 which requires recycling in large office buildings. The bill directs local governments to update their solid waste plans in preparation for implementation beginning after October of 2020.

Senate and House committees and stakeholders considered the types of materials to be recycled when drafting Senate Bill 370. For several reasons, organic materials were not included in the list of the materials required to be recycled.

Among the reasons that organics were not included in the 2019 legislation were the lack of facilities that can accept organic materials and the fact that several task force recommendations considered prerequisite to recycling of organic materials have not yet been accomplished.

Until commercial property owners, waste haulers and local governments have had an opportunity to work through implementation of the commercial recycling requirements enacted in 2019, we cannot support proposals like House Bill 264.

Furthermore, if these organic materials are being utilized to produce biogas or other products producers should reach contract agreements with generators that are equitable to all parties.

**For these reasons, NAIOP respectfully requests your unfavorable report on House Bill 264.**

Sincerely,

Tom Ballentine, Vice President for Policy  
NAIOP Maryland Chapters -*The Association for Commercial Real Estate*

cc: House Environment and Transportation Committee Members  
Nick Manis – Manis, Canning Assoc.