



# ABATE OF MARYLAND, INC.

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*Dedicated to the Freedom of the Road and Responsible Motorcycle Legislation*

## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Chairman and Members of the Environmental and Transportation Committee

FROM: Executive Director, Kenneth V. Sawyer, Abate of Maryland, Inc.

DATE: February 14, 2021

RE: **HB1114- Illegal Dumping and Litter Control Law – Yard Waste – Disposal on Highways**

POSITION: **FAVORABLE**

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Abate of Maryland, Inc. is for keeping our public roads safer and, as the voice of motorcyclists throughout the state of Maryland, we are in favor of the proposed amendments to HB1114. The proposed amendments to this bill provide a clear and concise definition of what constitutes yard waste and reasonable penalties for violations.

Our members are concerned about the potential hazards occurring on our Maryland roadways due to grass and debris carelessly or improperly scattered by citizens who are unaware of the dangers this presents to motorcyclists and the environment.

Passage of this bill is in the best interests of all Marylanders for several reasons:

1. it would reduce environmental damage from pesticide runoff into our waterways,
2. it would reduce roadway accidents and injuries from debris in the roadway (including accidents caused from ponding of water due to blocked storm drains),
3. it would preserve the beauty of our neighborhoods and roadways, and
4. it would reduce county and state costs for removal of debris from the roadway or to unblock storm drains.

Kenneth V. Sawyer, Executive Director  
Abate of Maryland, Inc.