



Maryland Municipal League

The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

January 28, 2021

Committee: House Health & Government Operations

Bill: HB 92 – Procurement – Invasive and Nonnative Plant Species – Prohibition on Use of State Funds

Position: Support with Amendment

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League supports HB 92 with administrative amendments. As introduced, the bill prohibits State funds from being spent on invasive and nonnative plant species and requires the Board of Public Works to both maintain a list of native plants and rule on potential exemptions.

MML is supportive of the bill's intent to promote the preservation of native habits and are hopeful that this legislation incentivizes local nurseries to include more native species. However, we are concerned that the Board of Public Works may not be as responsive as a State agency or have the necessary expertise to properly weigh exemptions. The League believe the Department of Natural Resources, the Department of Agriculture, or the Department of the Environment would be better suited.

For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League asks for an administrative amendment to HB 92 and respectfully requests a favorable committee report.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

| | |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Scott A. Hancock | Executive Director |
| Angelica Bailey | Director, Government Relations |
| Bill Jorch | Director, Research & Policy Analysis |
| Justin Fiore | Manager, Government Relations |

1212 West Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

410-268-5514 | 800-492-7121 | FAX: 410-268-7004 | www.md-municipal.org