

Maryland-Delaware Solid Waste Association
a chapter of the



**National
Waste & Recycling
Association**SM

Collect. Recycle. Innovate.

TO: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chair
Members, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
The Honorable Prince George's County Delegation

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: April 1, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 626 – *Prince George's County – Vehicle Height Monitoring Systems PG 305-21*

The Maryland Delaware Solid Waste Association (MDSWA), a chapter of the National Waste and Recycling Association, is a trade association representing the private solid waste industry in the State of Maryland. Its membership includes hauling and collection companies, processing and recycling facilities, transfer stations, and disposal facilities. MDSWA and its members **support** House Bill 626.

House Bill 626 authorizes Prince George's County to place vehicle height monitoring systems on highways in the county. Both Baltimore City and Baltimore County have worked with the commercial trucking industry to craft a legislative and regulatory structure for the use of vehicle height monitoring systems as an enforcement mechanism. In both instances, program development has required the evaluation of several key factors, relevant to the creation of an effective program, that does not create unintended consequences for the legitimate presence of trucks on routes that may otherwise have restrictions. With respect to Baltimore County, legislation passed in 2020 specifically called for a workgroup to address the relevant issues prior to the implementation of the program. Since its implementation, the trucking industry has been working proactively with the County to develop its program.

House Bill 626 as amended reflects the same framework that has been successfully implemented in the Baltimore City and Baltimore County initiatives. The amendments adopted by the House are critically important to MDSWA members, given that garbage trucks are authorized to perform essential waste disposal services for County residents daily. Without a reasonable and well defined statutory and regulatory framework, the proliferation of vehicle height monitoring cameras would unintentionally and unnecessarily capture these trucks and workers, subjecting them to potential fines and penalties that would be dismissed anyway. Fortunately, as amended, the bill reflects a framework for which MDSWA can request a favorable report.

For more information call:

Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
410-244-7000