



Larry Hogan GOVERNOR

Boyd K. Rutherford LT. GOVERNOR

Charles Glass, Ph.D., P.E. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

March 29, 2022

The Honorable Guy Guzzone  
Chair, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 West  
10 Bladen St., Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Paul G. Pinski  
Chairman, Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West  
10 Bladen St., Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chairs Guzzone and Pinski:

The Maryland Environmental Service (MES) supports House Bill 653, as amended in the House. MES supports the bill as a whole, but we would like to focus on two provisions of importance to MES.

First, it contains language identical to the Senate that corrects a technical error with the bill. The authority granted to MES to participate in pay-for-success contracting is placed in an area of law from which MES is exempt. The addition of the language on page 24 (line 11) down through page 25 (line 14) fixes what would be an inconsistency in state law. MES thanks the Committees in both the House and Senate for including this language.

Second, House Bill 653 also included language on page 44 (lines 1-8) that would require MES to review and evaluate the results of all pay-for-success contracts. MES worked closely on this language with the bill sponsors in both Chambers, as well as advocates, and we enthusiastically accept this challenge. MES has significant experience evaluating environmental outcomes of a broad spectrum of environmental projects.

The Maryland Environmental Service was established by the General Assembly in 1970 as an instrumentality of the State to assist with the preservation, improvement, and management of the quality of air, land, water, and natural resources, and to promote the health and welfare of the citizens of our great State. Today, with over 800 employees, MES operates more than 1,000 environmental projects across Maryland and the Mid-Atlantic region. MES provides multi-disciplinary environmental compliance services to enhance and protect the environment through innovative solutions to the region's most complex environmental challenges.

MES urges a favorable report on House Bill 653 as it was amended in the House.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out.

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