

February 23, 2022

Dear Representative C. T. WILSON, Esq.:

My name is Michael H. Varhola and I am writing you to express my support for HB 0934: Gasoline-Powered Leaf Blowers - Sale, Offering for Sale, and Use – Prohibition, which will come before the House Economic Matters Committee on Friday, February 25, 2022 - 1:00 PM

I live in the Woodmoor Neighborhood of Silver Spring. It is an older neighborhood with small lots and small lawns. It is also a neighborhood of busy people where typically both parents are employed. As a result, many families rely on landscaping services to maintain their lawns. On any given day, there are often several such services operating within easy hearing of my house. This can generate a horrible cacophony that persists almost continually throughout the daylight hours. It makes it almost impossible for us who do not leave the neighborhood for work to relax and enjoy the outside.

I personally find this intolerable. It is destroying the quality of my retirement, raising my blood pressure, and adversely affecting my health. And, of course, the adverse impact on the environment in general is severe. And the sad thing is that it is totally unnecessary. There are already high-quality battery-powered leaf blowers on the market. All that is necessary is to motivate lawn services to purchase and use them.

This is an important issue for me, and I will actively support any State or County candidate who opposes gas-powered-leaf blowers and lawn mowers.

Respectfully,

Michael H. Varhola
127 Lynnmoor Drive, Silver Spring, MD 20901