

February 23, 2022

Dear Committee on Economic Matters:

I write in strong support of HB 934, banning of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers. When our young family moved to Maryland 13 years ago, we were stunned and dismayed by the near daily and year around disruptive noise of gas powered leaf blowers. They woke up our infant and toddler, often made it impossible to play our doors with our children, and took away our ability to enjoy our patio or simply being outside for walks or relaxation. The noise was (and is) so loud it cannot be avoided inside one's home either. In fact, we have regularly suffered with two or three gas blowers next door on a single property roaring for more than an hour (at which point we leave our home). I contacted multiple landscapers to politely ask for a change and only one was willing to cut back on the gas blower usage near our home.

Quite simply, this antiquated noisy and polluting technology has rapidly been surpassed by equally powerful, clean, and quiet cordless technology. This is why so many jurisdictions and now states have phased out the gas blowers. The incredible disruption to our qualities of life was made even more apparent during the pandemic when so many were stuck at home for school or work.

I urge you to show leadership in following these common sense trend and support this legislation.

Thank you,

Chris Homan
Bethesda, MD