

**Testimony of Andrew Hinz for Supporting HB1239 House Environment & Transportation  
March 9, 2022**

**Position: FAVORABLE with Amendments**

House Environment & Transportation Committee Chair and Members,

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Post-consumer recycled content requirements are an important piece of developing economically sustainable recycling markets to ensure that materials that are technologically recyclable actually get recycled, especially in light of the changing recycling markets in the past several years.

Setting minimum standards for post-consumer content in various product sectors creates a market for recycled materials that makes recycling operations more economically viable and expands the opportunities for local facilities to find markets for their products. This has a wide variety of external benefits that support the need for state action. Requiring that products contain a minimum content of recycled materials is an effective way to ensure that more materials are recycled, and fewer virgin materials must be drilled or harvested from the environment, saving energy and the environment.

I support Sierra Club and their recommendations for amendments to the legislation and I support amending 9–2410 to no longer preempt Maryland counties and municipalities from setting stronger post-consumer recycled content requirements, but explicitly affirm their ability to do so—fore example:

This subtitle does not affect the authority of a county, municipality, or other local government to enact standards that are at least as stringent as the standards established in this subtitle.

Again, thank you.

March 7, 2022  
Andrew Hinz  
1427 Park Avenue  
Baltimore, Maryland 21217