



Bill: HB 700

Date: February 16, 2022

Position: Support w/ amendments

HB 700- Environment – Products and Packaging – Labeling, Marketing, and Advertising for Recycling

Dear Chairperson Barve and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee:

We enthusiastically support HB 700 and the premise that there must be greater accuracy in recycling labeling and environmental marketing. This bill is intended to ensure products labeled as recyclable or environmentally friendly actually have the potential to be recycled in Maryland or are environmentally friendly.

The chasing arrows symbol is frequently used for resin types that have little chance of being recycled. This bill would provide that chasing arrows be used on materials that are able to be recycled and a part of recycling programs that a majority of residents have access to. The bill also ensures greater accuracy in the myriad of environmentally friendly marketing claims that exist today.

Strengthening recycling programs in this way instills greater consumer confidence and builds trust in recycling programs. These are critical steps as they will lead to more recycling participation and less litter.

We suggest one amendment. The bill currently includes a definition for "Resource Recovery Facility" and a related sub-paragraph in the new definition of recyclability. These provisions are not necessary to implement

the intent of the bill. We respectfully request they be deleted.

This bill will improve the information available to us as consumers and ensure greater transparency and accuracy in labeling and marketing related to environmental claims. We respectfully urge your favorable support.

Blue Water Baltimore

The National Aquarium

The Surfrider Foundation

Trash Free Maryland

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