



3/7/1974

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony for HB1372. My organization, Howard EcoWorks, is a non-profit based out of Columbia, MD. We empower communities and diverse workforces to respect and restore natural systems for future generations. We administer multiple green jobs programs as we work at the nexus of workforce development and environmental improvements. We believe that the critical state of our environment requires much more investment and we would like to see that investment go in part towards improving the lives of individuals – with a paycheck - that have been historically disenfranchised.

This bill would benefit our organization in many ways – we have seen similar benefit through our local Howard County Cleanscapes program where financial incentives to homeowners for implementing environmentally sensitive solutions on their properties have benefited the homeowner, our organization and green jobs programs, and our local government who receives credit on their stormwater permit to the state for the implemented projects. We encourage you to invest in more programs and initiatives with triple bottom line rewards such as HB1372. Please feel free to reach out to me with any specific questions regarding our own experiences at the local level. We definitely want to see these efforts and investment grow for people, communities and our planet.

Sincerely,

Lori Lilly  
Executive Director