FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT



OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

Shannon Moore, Director

February 2, 2022

House Bill 0307 Packaging Materials – Producer Responsibility Committee: Environment and Transportation Position: FAVORABLE

Frederick County Executive Jan H. Gardner supports HB 0307 and asks the Committee to vote favorably for this legislation.

In addition to the negative impacts to the environment from the production, transportation, and disposition of packaging waste, a significant amount ends up loose in the environment, where it pollutes the land and waterways. Degrading plastics harm aquatic organisms. Solid waste also results in air emissions including greenhouse gas emissions that are included within local government scopes. Local governments spend significant financial resources to manage packaging waste and are essentially subsidizing wasteful industry practices. Industries that create this waste do not have strong enough incentives to reduce it.

HB 0307 takes steps to address waste from large scale producers and to transfer back some of the responsibility to these entities. This could result in less packaging and less negative impacts to local governments.

For these reasons, Frederick County Government requests the committee vote FAVORABLE on HB 0307.

With regards,

Shannon Moore