

Committee: House Environment & Transportation Committee

Legislation: HB 0217 Task Force on Recycling Policy and Recycling and Waste Systems in Maryland

Date of Hearing: February 2, 2022

Organization: Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church Environmental Justice Ministry

Position: Favorable

Dear Chairperson and Committee Members:

The Environmental Justice Ministry strongly supports the establishment of this Task Force on Recycling Policy and Recycling and Waste Systems in Maryland. As a people of faith, Unitarian Universalists recognize the urgency to review and update those Recycling and Waste Policies that ultimately affect the manner in which waste is removed from our environment. Our faith holds each individual should be afforded a clean environment as a part of each individual's inherent worth and dignity. A review of current policies of the Maryland Recycling Act (MDA) making recommendations on updating the Maryland Recycling Act and implementing regional recycling and waste disposal facilities will be very significant for improvements in the systems. The requirement for the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to certain legislative committees by June 30, 2023 will provide much needed data for future implementation. Finally, this bill will focus on how to help the state achieve its recycling and greenhouse gas reduction goals, an urgent need in this time of climate crisis.

Please vote favorably for this important bill- HB 0217.

Nanci Wilkinson

Environmental Justice Ministry Team

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church