



**Bill:** HB 1239

**Date:** March 9, 2022

**Position:** Support w/ amendments

## **HB 1239 - Environment - Plastic and Glass Products - Post consumer Recycled Content Program**

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

We support HB1239 and the goal of increasing post-consumer content in plastic bags, beverage containers and other packaging. The bill establishes mandatory requirements for post-consumer content depending on the type of container or packaging and by date.

Increasing the requirement for post-consumer content in goods will strengthen the market for recycled inputs. However, if the standard for post-consumer content is too low, the desired goal of increasing demand for the recycled content will not be achieved. For this reason, it is critical to ensure that these standards are established based on current post-consumer content rates, technical and market capacity for increasing post-consumer content and continual evaluation as to whether capacity to increase recycled content has advanced.

Strengthening use of recycled content 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. This bill would establish goals for recycled content, improve environmental outcomes and strengthen recycling progress in the State. Thank you for your leadership on these issues and we look forward to working with you.

Anacostia Riverkeeper  
Trash Free Maryland

Environment Maryland

National Aquarium

Maryland PIRG

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