

MARLON AMPREY
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DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

Economic Matters Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 8, 2023

Testimony of Delegate Amprey in Support of House Bill 91: Environment – Recycling – Hotels

Dear Members of the Economic Matters Committee,

Here in Maryland, we take pride in our natural resources, which is why we do what we can to minimize our impact on our environment. House Bill 91 requires an owner, operator, or manager of a hotel to provide recycling for the guests of the hotel and to recycle certain materials on or before October 1, 2024. It further authorizes a county to require an owner, operator, or manager of a hotel to report recycling activities to the county in a certain manner. And lastly, it authorizes an enforcement unit, officer, or official of a county, municipality, or any other local government to conduct inspections of a hotel to enforce certain provisions of the Act.

The Maryland Recycling Act requires a county with a population greater than 150,000 to recycle 35% or more of its waste, and a county with a population of less than 150,000 to recycle 20% or more of its waste. Many Maryland residents and businesses do their part to reach these standards, and House Bill 91 seeks to draw in the hotel industry to help reduce the overall waste going into landfills.

According to the 2020 Maryland Solid Waste Management and Diversion Report, 25% of counties failed to meet their requirement under the MRA. Notably, many of the counties that do meet their requirement already require hotel recycling. State-wide hotel recycling requirements could make a huge impact on our collective waste diversion and help Maryland reach our goals set forth by law. The enactment of HB91 would authorize and encourage counties to include hotels in their waste reporting.

House Bill 91 is aligned with the goals and objectives of our existing legislation and the Maryland Department of the Environment. It provides our state with additional means to preserve our environment. I believe this bill will enhance our existing state-wide dedication to recycling, therefore I am willing to work with the Committee and the hotel industry to create the best version of this bill that will work for everyone.

For these reasons, I strongly urge a favorable report on House Bill 91.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Marlon Amprey'.

Delegate Marlon Amprey
40th Legislative District of Maryland