



TESTIMONY FOR SJ0004
Environmental Human Rights

Bill Sponsor: Senator Waldstreicher

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of SJ0004 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

This bill reaffirms the principle that everyone has a right to a healthy environment. It is not as powerful as the amendment to the State Constitution that our members have supported for some time, but it is a principle that goes beyond politics and says that we value each other and our environment over the short-term profits of businesses that would destroy the environment and make our state a poor place to live. If we can't even reaffirm that we believe in helping our neighbors and being good stewards for the environment, we are in a bad place.

We strongly support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.