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March 8, 2023

**TO:** The Honorable Brian Feldman  
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

**FROM:** Hannibal G. Williams II Kemerer  
Chief Counsel, Legislative Affairs, Office of the Attorney General

**RE:** SB0611: Office of the Attorney General – Environment and Natural  
Resources Monitoring Unit – Establishment (Support with Amendments)

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The Office of Attorney General (“OAG”) urges the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee to adopt our proposed amendments and favorably report Senate Bill 611, bipartisan legislation introduced by Senators Bailey, Elfreth, Rosapepe, and West. We are working with the Sponsors to modify the bill so that it: (1) creates a new Environmental and Natural Resources Crimes unit; (2) codifies within that unit the OAG’s ability to prosecute environmental and natural resources crimes; and (3) requires an annual report on trends and recommendations based upon the actions the new unit brings.

We continue to draft proposed amendments, but pledge to work with the Senate and House Sponsors to produce legislation to fill the gaps they’ve identified in natural resource crime prosecutions.

We urge a favorable with amendments report on SB 611.

cc: Senators Bailey, Elfreth, Rosapepe, and West and Committee Members