



Maryland Association of Green Industries, Inc.

February 2, 2023

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee.

My name is Mark Schlossberg and I am president of The Maryland Association of Green Industries, Inc. (MAGI). **We oppose SB158.** Our group consists of Green Industry companies and organizations including lawn care companies, the Eastern Shore and Mid-Atlantic Associations of Golf Course Superintendents, the Maryland State Golf Association, the Maryland State Pest Control Association, and some Industry suppliers.

The immediate effect of this bill is that many of our members perform mosquito control services for their clients or on their properties and they would potentially lose many effective control products that have been allowed to be used by EPA based on their protocols. Mosquito control IS a public health issue. Many of the products we use serve a public health purpose and would most likely not be able to be used in Maryland over the next few years should this legislation pass.

We believe all pesticides registration and review should go through the proper regulatory bodies created specifically for this purpose. The EPA has created a Strategic Roadmap to address PFAS chemicals and how they affect our environment. EPA was created to regulate the pesticide industry and should be the ultimate decision maker on the use and regulation of all pesticides in the United States. They have already removed several PFAS from the presently approved list.

The legislation created could not be enforced because there is no EPA validated testing method for PFAS. As we understand it, the testing labs results are valid for testing drinking water and may give false positive results for pesticide testing. This bill is just a way for the anti-pesticide groups to start the process to essentially ban pesticides in the state of Maryland because the compliance requirements for registration are unattainable. We need to allow the scientists to do their jobs and regulate the chemicals as driven by the science. We kindly request an **UNFAVORABLE REPORT** FOR SB158.