



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.
County Executive

JENNIFER AIOSA
Director of Government Affairs

AMANDA KONTZ CARR
Legislative Officer

JOSHUA M. GREENBERG
Associate Director of Government Affairs

BILL NO.: **HB 31**

TITLE: Environment – Products and Packaging – Labeling, Marketing,
and Advertising for Recycling

SPONSOR: Delegate Love

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: February 22, 2023

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 31 – Environment - On-Farm Composting Facilities - Permit Exemption. Environment – Products and Packaging – Labeling, Marketing, and Advertising for Recycling. This legislation would establish what is considered “recyclable” in the State and prohibit the use of untruthful or deceptive marketing claims about recyclability.

The need for transparency from companies to their consumers is urgent, particularly when it comes to the recyclability of products. The current labeling on plastic products gives consumers the impression that non-recyclable plastics can, in fact, be recycled. Such a practice is not only misleading to the consumer, but creates additional burdens on recycling facilities that spend considerable resources sorting out incorrectly recycled products. It is critical that the State ensures that there is a clear definition of what is recyclable within Maryland, and that appropriate measures are taken to inform the public.

House Bill 31 outlines enhanced waste diversion measures in the State. By defining what is recyclable; and banning the sale, distribution, and import of any plastic resin-based bottles with misleading or untruthful recyclability claims, this legislation will eliminate sorting work once products reach the recycling plant. House Bill 31 will empower consumers with the ability to distinguish between recyclable and nonrecyclable plastics and reduce the burden on recycling facilities in the State.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 31. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov.