

March 8, 2023

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman  
Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building,  
2 West Wing 11 Bladen St.,  
Annapolis, MD, 21401

**RE: MBIA Letter of Opposition SB 611 Office of the Attorney General - Environment and Natural Resources Monitoring Unit - Establishment**

Dear Chairman Feldman:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding **SB 611 Office of the Attorney General - Environment and Natural Resources Monitoring Unit - Establishment**. MBIA **Opposes** the Act in its current version.

This bill would add an Environmental and Natural Resources Unit in the Attorney General's office. MBIA respectfully opposes this measure. This bill is unnecessary and muddies the regulatory waters for the both regulators and the regulated parties. The office of the Attorney General already has an environmental monitoring unit called the "Environmental Crimes Unit" the responsibilities of which are "the investigation and prosecution of criminal environmental violations and other associated criminal charges throughout the State of Maryland." It is unnecessary and may lead to confusion to establish another environmental enforcement office with essentially the same function. There is no reason to establish a new office and use additional resources for this duplication of effort.

For these reasons, MBIA respectfully requests the committee give this measure an unfavorable report. Thank you for your consideration. For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or [lgraf@marylandbuilders.org](mailto:lgraf@marylandbuilders.org).

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cc: Members of the Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee