

**ANTHONY G. BROWN**  
*Attorney General*



**CANDACE MCLAREN LANHAM**  
*Chief of Staff*

**CAROLYN A. QUATTROCKI**  
*Deputy Attorney General*

**STATE OF MARYLAND**  
**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL**

FACSIMILE NO.  
(410) 576-7036

WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NO.  
(410) 576-6584

March 9, 2023

**TO:** The Honorable Kumar P. Barve  
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee

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

**RE:** HB0874: Office of the Attorney General – Environment and Natural  
Resources Monitoring Unit – Establishment (Support with Amendments)

---

The Office of Attorney General (“OAG”) urges the Environment and Transportation Committee to adopt our proposed amendments and favorably report House Bill 874, bipartisan legislation introduced by Delegates Stewart, Hornberger, Love, Moon, Ruth, Solomon, and Wilkins. 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 HB 874.

cc: Delegates Stewart, Hornberger, Love, Moon, Ruth, Solomon, and Wilkins and Committee Members