



TESTIMONY FOR HB0031

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

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Love

Committee: Environment and Transportation

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0031 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists, and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Most waste in Maryland is not recyclable, even though much of the packaging on products says that it is. We throw it into recycling containers, but once they are picked up, most of the 'recycling' winds up in landfills.

That is the problem that this bill is trying to solve. It requires product manufacturers to be truthful when they say that a product is recyclable. It prohibits PFAS and other chemicals, inks, and dyes that we know are not recyclable, or biodegradable, from being contained in the packaging.

If we can't make product manufacturers be more careful to only make recyclable packaging, we will drown in the packaging. It's already hugely expensive and environmentally destructive. The costs to manufacturers that this bill would create are nowhere near the costs that we incur from their lack of concern.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.