



MARYLAND VOTES FOR ANIMALS

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March 9, 2023

To: House Environment and Transportation Committee
From: Lisa Radov, President and Chair, Maryland Votes for Animals, Inc.
Re: Office of the Attorney General - Environment and Natural Resources Monitoring Unit - Establishment
– HB 874- Support

Chair Barve, Vice Chair Stein, members of the Environment and Transportation Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. My name is Lisa Radov. I am the President and Chair of Maryland Votes for Animals. We champion humane legislation to improve the lives of animals in Maryland. Speaking for Maryland Votes for Animals, our Board of Directors, and our members across Maryland, I respectfully request that the Environment and Transportation Committee vote favorably for Office of the Attorney General - Environment and Natural Resources Monitoring Unit - Establishment – HB 874.

This bill would establish the Environment and Natural Resources Monitoring Unit of the Office of the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute cases against persons that violate State criminal environmental and natural resources laws and to assist the Department of the Environment and the Department of Natural Resources in investigating or bringing a civil action regarding a violation of State civil environmental and natural resources laws relating to the Environment and Natural Resources Monitoring Unit.

To ensure that our environment and natural resources are safe for Maryland residents, we must have the ability by the Attorney General's office to investigate and potentially take legal action if there is a violation of State laws in these areas. By establishing the Environment and Natural Resources Monitoring Unit to Assist the Department of Natural Resources, we would strengthen our commitment to protecting and preserving Maryland's environment and natural resources for future generations.

In closing, I would like to thank Delegate Stewart for his sponsorship of HB 874 and ask the committee to give this bill a favorable report.