

Committee: Environment and Transportation
Testimony: State Buildings and State Highways - Collection of Yard Waste (HB 173)
Position: Support
Hearing Date: February 7, 2024

On behalf of the Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund, we strongly support HB 173: State Buildings and State Highways - Collection of Yard Waste. This bill addresses the proper disposal of yard waste collected on the grounds of state buildings or state highways, prohibiting the disposal of yard waste in single-use plastic containers and requiring the use of containers that are either not discarded with the yard waste or compostable, aligning with crucial environmental goals and sustainability practices.

By implementing this legislation, we are ensuring that the State takes a significant step toward reducing the environmental impact associated with the disposal of yard waste. The restriction on single-use plastic containers contributes to a decrease in plastic pollution, which is a growing concern for our communities and ecosystems.

Furthermore, the requirement to use containers that are either not discarded with the yard waste or compostable promotes responsible waste management practices. Compostable containers, in particular, **support the transition towards more eco-friendly alternatives and contribute to the overall reduction of waste in landfills.**

In essence, **House Bill 173 not only addresses the immediate concern of proper yard waste disposal but also promotes a broader commitment to environmental stewardship and sustainable practices within our state.** I urge you to consider the positive impact this legislation can have on our environment and communities, and kindly request your favorable support for House Bill 173.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ernesto Villasenor, Jr., J.D.
Policy Manager
Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund