



TESTIMONY FOR HB1153

Environment – Water Pollution Control – Protecting State Waters From PFAS Pollution (Protecting State Waters From PFAS Pollution Act)

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 HB1153 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.

PFAS chemicals are deadly. And yet, our state waters are infected with them. We need stronger regulations and we need regulations with teeth. This bill, if enacted, would require any significant industrial organization to ensure that the amount of PFAS chemicals discharged into any state water, including stormwater, not exceed 4 parts per trillion. Additionally, by April 1, 2025, each major industrial organization must measure and report to the Department of the Environment.

As far as disposal of PFAS chemicals, a significant industrial organization may not dispose of stored PFAS chemicals in a solid waste landfill; an incinerator; or other land application.

Violation of these requirements will be administered by the Department of the Environment. While we would like to see proscribed penalties for violations, and more significant oversight, we believe this is a good first step to reigning in the PFAS chemicals that are in our water.

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