



## **TESTIMONY FOR HB0701**

### **Gasoline-Powered Leaf Blowers – Purchase, Use, and Sale – Prohibitions (Clean Air and Quiet Communities Act)**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Foley

**Committee:** Economic Matters

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Cecilia Plante, co-chair

**Position:** **FAVORABLE**

I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB0701 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.

Gasoline-powered leaf blowers are a noisy nuisance in many neighborhoods, but that is not the real issue. They produce an unbelievable amount of pollution into our air. Using a gas-powered leaf blower for about 12 hours produces as much air pollution as the average Marylander driving one year (13,500 miles)!

This bill, if enacted, would require after September of this year that anyone who sells gas-powered leaf blowers to notify any purchasers that after January 2027, they could not purchase a gas-powered leaf blower. There are some exceptions related to fire-fighting activities. We believe that the prohibition is necessary for our health and the health of those who utilize them on a regular basis.

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