

February 6, 2025

The Honorable C.T. Wilson
Chairman, House Economic Matters Committee
230 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 701 Gasoline-Powered Leaf Blowers – Purchase, Use, and Sale – Prohibitions (Clean Air Quiet Communities Act)

Dear Chairman Wilson:

The Maryland Building Industry Association (MBIA), representing 100,000 employees of the building industry across the State of Maryland, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding **HB 701 Gasoline-Powered Leaf Blowers – Purchase, Use, and Sale – Prohibitions (Clean Air Quiet Communities Act)**.

This bill phases out the sale and use of gasoline-powered leaf blowers in the State of Maryland. Our industry has concerns about the ability of the State to fully implement this ban. Battery-powered leaf have less power, shorter runtimes, and do not perform as well as gasoline-powered leaf blowers. They are also more expensive and not widely available in today's market. The current supply of battery-powered leaf blowers would not be enough to meet the increase in demand that this bill would bring. We have concerns about this driving up the costs for those that use these services, including Home Builders.

For these reasons, MBIA respectfully requests the Committee give this measure an unfavorable report. Thank you for your consideration

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or lgraf@marylandbuilders.org.

cc:Members of the House Economic Matters Committee