

Written Testimony of Kim Chambers
Submitted to the Economic Matters Committee
On HB0701

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

Members of the Economic Matters Committee,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to submit my written testimony to the committee in opposition to HB0701, “Gasoline-Powered Leaf Blowers – Purchase, Use, and Sale – Prohibitions (Cleans Air Quiet Communities Act)”

Members of the Economic Matter Committee,

You should oppose HB0701 for the following reasons:

1. Increase Costs for Consumer & Businesses
2. Reduced Efficiency and Productivity
3. Higher Maintenance and Replacement Costs
4. Limited Performance for Larger Companies
5. Competitive Disadvantage Again Larger Companies
6. Lack of Infrastructure Support
7. Contradicts HB 0635

Not only does this bill place unfair and operational expenses from homeowners all the way to financial institutions, the transitions deadlines are very aggressive and the expenses for all that this bill requires is very disadvantageous.

As is seems, the ones who will suffer most are the small landscaping and maintenance companies – leading to job loss, reduced service, which will, affect the middle class and consumers.

Lastly, this bill CONTRIDICTS HB0635, Motor Vehicles – Secondary Enforcement and Admissibility of Evidence from the Judiciary Committee. Included in this bill is a prohibition of police officer from stopping a vehicle for excessive noise. This is ridiculous. It will be ok for a vehicle to make loud noises, but not a gas-powered leaf blower? Below is a list of decibel measurements taken from <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov> (Sound Levels and Their Effects) and <https://www.enoisecontrol.com>.

70-95dB leaf-blower, washing machine, normal car noise driving at 60mph

80-90dB Harley motor cycle

100-120dB –Common for a modified exhaust system on a car

Normal car noise is between 70-90dB and a bad muffler, depending on make and model of car, 80-100dB.

For these reasons, I strongly encourage the members of this committee to give this bill an unfavorable report.

Thank you for your time,

Kim Chambers