

February 17, 2025

Bill: <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/2025RS/bills/hb/hb1058F.pdf>

Committee: Environment and Transportation

Testimony on HB1058—Emission Standards, Ambient Air Quality Standards, and Solid Waste Management

Position: Favorable

I support HB1058, which would allow counties to institute more stringent standards than the state. My reasons for this are that I have profound concerns regarding the proposed Pilot Plastic Recycling Project by WR Grace in Columbia, Maryland. This would release volatile compounds into the atmosphere in a densely populated residential area, full of children and the aged and infirm.

Our home sits just two short exits east of the Grace facility, which is downwind. We are both over 65 with the additional health vulnerabilities. We live in a 55+ community, so most of our neighbors share these vulnerabilities.

I feel that the counties should be permitted to protect the health of their residents and urge the Committee to make a favorable report on HB1258.

Kurt R. Schwarz