



February 12, 2025

**To: Maryland House Environment and Transportation Committee
Re: HB 407 – Municipal Recycling Plans
Oppose**

Maryland Recycling Network members are county and municipal government recycling managers, private sector recyclers, non-profit recyclers and citizens who support recycling. We have direct experience operating recycling and composting programs at the county and municipal government level. We know the ins and outs of recycling in Maryland. Our experience informs our comments.

We oppose HB 407

We applaud Del. Edelson's desire to increase recycling in Maryland. We share that goal. However, we do not believe this bill will help to achieve it. A survey of recycling programs in the towns covered by the bill, show that all offer their residents recycling through either curbside collection (16 incorporated municipalities) or drop-off (four). Only one does not. Two counties have no incorporated municipalities. In lieu of a formal plan, those municipalities with recycling programs have an ordinance setting out the details of what recyclables are collected, when they are collected, how they are collected and in the case of a drop off program, where those facilities are located. We are concerned these municipalities will be spending time and money developing a plan when they already have their own existing recycling program.

We look forward to work with Delegate Edelson in finding ways to improve recycling in Maryland.

The Maryland Recycling Network is a resource for legislators and others interested in recycling and waste reduction. Please do not hesitate to contact us via email phoustle@marylandrecyclingnetwork.org, phone 301-725-2508 or mail - MRN, PO Box 1640, Columbia MD 21044 if you have any questions or would like additional information regarding our comments.

Sincerely,

Chaz Miller
Chair, MRN Legislative Committee