

**Committee:** Environment and Transportation Committee

Testimony on: HB0407 - Environment - Municipal Recycling Plans - Requirement

**Organization:** Maryland Legislative Coalition Climate Justice Wing

**Submitting:** Dave Arndt, Co-Chair

**Position:** Favorable

**Hearing Date:** February 12, 2025

## Dear Chair and Committee Members:

Thank you for allowing our testimony today.in support of HB0407. The Maryland Legislative Coalition Climate Justice Wing, a statewide coalition of nearly 30 grassroots and professional organizations, urges you to vote favorably on HB0407.

The bill amends the current law to require that the largest jurisdiction in each county must also do what each county is already required to do; measure, plan and achieve state recycling goals.

In Maryland, our 2023 recycling rate was 43%. Every pound that we recycle creates a healthier planet for ourselves and future generations. It conserves natural resources, reduces the need for landfills and incinerators and produces less greenhouse gases.

Many counties are surpassing their state mandated recycling goals, however many of the largest cities are not even measuring their recycling rates let alone having goals and a plan to achieve them.

This is a simple bill to put these cities on a path to help forge a healthier Maryland for all of us.

For all of these reasons, we strongly support HB0407 and urge a FAVORABLE report in Committee.

## 350MoCo

Adat Shalom Climate Action

Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church Environmental Justice Ministry

Chesapeake Earth Holders

Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility

Climate Parents of Prince George's

Climate Reality Project

ClimateXChange – Rebuild Maryland Coalition

Coming Clean Network, Union of Concerned Scientists

DoTheMostGood Montgomery County

**Echotopia** 

**Elders Climate Action** 

Fix Maryland Rail

Glen Echo Heights Mobilization

Greenbelt Climate Action Network

HoCoClimateAction

IndivisibleHoCoMD

Maryland Legislative Coalition

Mobilize Frederick

Montgomery County Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions

Montgomery Countryside Alliance

Mountain Maryland Movement

Nuclear Information & Resource Service

Progressive Maryland

Safe & Healthy Playing Fields

Takoma Park Mobilization Environment Committee

The Climate Mobilization MoCo Chapter

Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland

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