Testimony Supporting HB1484 House Environment and Transportation Committee March 11, 2025

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Chair Korman and Members of the Committee.

As a resident of Gwen's Falls and Vice President of Benjamin Franklin High School's Student Government Association, I am writing to express my strong support for HB1484, the CHERISH Our Communities Act. This bill is important because the high density of facilities producing waste surrounding our school severely impacts the health of our fellow students. The majority of students live within a mile of a multitude of facilities. Curtis Bay alone hosts at least 70 different facilities being monitored by MDE.

I, as the Vice President of our Student Government Association, am currently leading efforts to deny the expansion of a facility located a quarter of a mile from our campus. This is in order to help slightly alleviate our fellow students from the cumulative impacts of all these facilities

The CHERISH bill aims to address this by taking into account the existing density of facilities and pollutants within our community, rather than allowing all facilities to operate as long as they are within the pollution limits set by the EPA.

We, members of the Student Government Association, urge you to support HB1484 to help protect the health and future of students like us.

Sincerely, Maynor Flores