



# Howard County Council

George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043-4392

Christiana Rigby  
Councilmember

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District 3

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB232

### Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program

February 14, 2025

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee,

I am writing to express my **support for HB232**, legislation to establish the Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program to increase the reuse and recycling of plastic beverage containers. As the Councilwoman for District 3 on the Howard County Council and environmental advocate, I firmly believe that this legislation will continue local efforts to reduce plastic waste in our community and increase environmental stewardship.

Waste reduction is a central piece of Howard County's Climate Action and Resiliency Plan (CARP). Included in this is the goal to reduce the use of single-use items, particularly plastics, and promote waste reduction and reuse throughout Howard County. Our current plastic reduction efforts lead to 3,000 pounds of plastic bags being reduced in fiscal year 2024. These programs to reduce single-use plastic have proven to be both a successful way to decrease waste and increase environmental stewardship.

To further waste reduction goals, local jurisdictions need programmatic support from the State. Thank you for your consideration of this legislation, and I respectfully encourage a favorable report.

Yours in service,

Christiana Rigby