Dear Environment and Transportation Committee Members:

We write to express our strong support for HB 0232, the Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program.

We are two longtime Montgomery County residents who, working with the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Neighbors of the Northwest Branch, the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection, and the Oakview Community Association, regularly volunteer our time organizing and participating in cleanups of trash and other waste, especially along County waterways.

Beverage containers are far and away the most frequent items we pick up. Over the course of the past year, we have picked up thousands of them. We anticipate that passage of this bill would be a major step toward ameliorating that.

We urge you to do everything in your power to ensure passage of this bill. It would certainly make our work a lot easier.

And please let us know if there is anything else we can do to help.

Regards,

Nicholas Clements 226 Whitmoor Terrace Silver Spring, MD 20901

Charles O. "Cob" Blaha 9808 Cottrell Terrace Silver Spring, MD 20903