



Maryland Municipal League
The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

March 6, 2025

Committee: House Environment and Transportation Committee

Bill: HB 1258 – Consumer Goods – Restrictions Based on Energy Source – Prohibition
(Energy Equality Act of 2025)

Position: Oppose

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes House Bill 1258, which would preempt local governments and units of state government from restricting the sale, purchase, or use of any consumer good solely on the basis of the energy source used to power the consumer good.

Municipal governments should be able to use their home rule authority to make environmental considerations at the local level, whether that be a restriction on gas powered leaf blowers or a ban on natural gas in the construction of new buildings. Locally elected officials are both capable of making these nuanced considerations and are directly responsible to their residents at the ballot box. As such, the League generally opposes bills that preempt local authority.

For these reasons the League respectfully requests that this committee provide an unfavorable report on House Bill 1258. For more information, please contact Justin Fiore, Deputy Director of Advocacy and Public Affairs, at justinf@mdmunipal.org. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

The Maryland Municipal League uses its collective voice to advocate, empower and protect the interests of our 160 local governments members and elevates local leadership, delivers impactful solutions for our communities, and builds an inclusive culture for the 2 million Marylanders we serve.

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