



## **HB0407**

### **Environment - Municipal Recycling Plans - Requirement**

#### **Testimony before the Environment and Transportation Committee**

**Hearing February 12, 2025**

**Position: Favorable**

Dear Chair Korman and Vice-Chair Boyce, and members of the committee, my name is Peter Alexander, and I represent the 900+ members of Indivisible Howard County. Indivisible Howard County is an active member of the Maryland Legislative Coalition (with 30,000+ members). We are providing written testimony today **in support of HB0407**. We appreciate the leadership of Delegate Edelson and her many colleagues in sponsoring this legislation.

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 reduces greenhouse gas emissions.

Many counties in Maryland 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.

**HB0407** 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.

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

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

**We respectfully urge a favorable report.**

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