

# Favorable Testimony for HB 1058

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Honorable Chair and Delegates,

I am asking you to support HB 1058 to clarify that local jurisdictions can protect their citizens from sources that pollute their air and harm their health. Air pollution shortens our lives and inflicts harm, particularly our children and elderly.

Cool Green Schools is engaging students in studying the air quality of their neighborhoods and schools. We are finding that some communities are bearing the brunt of polluting industries and traffic with high asthma rates, heart disease, and stroke. The Environmental Justice Screen documents this dramatically, but that information is no longer available on Federal websites. This speaks to protections we can expect from the federal government in the next four years.

All we are asking for is to be able to use our established rights to limit pollution more strictly than Federal and State laws. This is simple self-defense for our communities and counties which want to protect the health of their children and elderly from the harm they suffer from the pollution that is poured into their air.

Thank you for clarifying that our communities can escape the harm and injustice of air pollution.

Sincerely,  
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