

SB 525 Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Judy Allen-Leventhal

Position: FAV

Submission date 2/3/2025

HEARING DATE: 2/05/2025

BILL: SB 525 - **SPONSORS:** Senators Charles, Muse, Kramer, Ellis, and Rosapepe
TITLE: **Illegal Dumping and Litter Control Law – Video Evidence and Reward Programs**
POSITION: **Favorable**
COMMITTEE: **Judicial Proceedings**

Dear Members of the Committee,

My name is Judith Allen-Leventhal, and I am a resident Maryland Legislative District 26. I am past president of the Greater Accokeek Civic Association (GACA), currently serve on that Board as well as Chair of GACA's ad hoc Roadway Advocacy Committee for South County (RACS) established at the urging of concerned citizen activists who advocate for improved roadway conditions in our area of southern Prince George's County. I write to enthusiastically endorse SB 525.

Currently there is inadequate accountability for irresponsible behavior by entities that leave litter, rubbish, debris, etc. throughout Maryland communities; this results in aesthetic undermining and defacing as well as posing serious risks to health and safety.

SB 525 empowers concerned members of the community to actively help address illegal dumping issues that are an aesthetic and an environmental threat to us all throughout Maryland. As the bill outlines, the public will be enabled to submit video evidence of alleged violations of the Illegal Dumping and Litter Control Law to enforcement officials. Of particular concern in our area of Prince George's County, is that MDOT and DPWT are overwhelmed by egregious illegal dumping – much of it by commercial entities who realize that our agencies and police are understaffed and unable to keep up with needed enforcement. SB 525 would further reduce drains on those formal resources and facilitate their staying focused on critical health and safety missions for which they are already responsible.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony and for your consideration of my enthusiastic endorsement of SB 525. I urge a FAVORABLE REPORT on SB 525.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Allen-Leventhal
Chair, Roadway Advocacy Committee for South County
301-642-6744; j.allenleventhal@gmail.com

Favorable SB0525.pdf

Uploaded by: Maureen Fine

Position: FAV

Favorable SB0525

2/5/25 Judicial Proceedings Committee

Name—Maureen Fine
2509 Knighthill Lane
Bowie, MD. 20715

Dear Senators and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

Please vote Favorably for this bill. Littering is destroying our quality of life and our health. In the past, I have seen landscaping crews dump yard waste in public parks, advertising literature dumped en masse in a protected area, etc. This problem needs to be addressed!

I believe that this bill will help citizens address the overwhelming amount of trash burying our neighborhoods, roadsides, shopping areas, and parks. It offers the added incentive of allowing a member of the public to receive a portion of the fines collected in relation to a violation.

Please support SB0525.

Thank you,
Maureen Fine

WRITTEN TESTIMONY SENATE BILL 525. ILLEGAL DUMPING

Uploaded by: Sharon Blake

Position: FAV

TESTIMONY on Senate Bill 525

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

Illegal Dumping and Litter Control Law – Video Evidence and Reward Programs

February 05, 2025

SUPPORT/FAVOR

Submitted by: Sharon Y. Blake

Chair William C. Smith Jr., Vice Chair Jeff Waldstreicher and honorable members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I, Sharon Y. Blake, am submitting testimony in support of Senate Bill 525, Illegal Dumping and Litter Control Law – Video Evidence and Reward Programs. I am a concerned resident of Baltimore County, District 10, personally aware of, and affected by, the problem Senate Bill 525 addresses. As many of you may be aware, District 10 includes the Liberty Road corridor, which is constantly littered with debris and that, with great regularity, due to the regular recurrence of the problem, Madame Speaker, Adrienne Jones, conducts cleanup campaigns along that corridor. I have joined her in those recurring efforts.

The passing of Senate Bill 525 will send a powerful message to the citizens, that the problem is important enough to be addressed, and that their involvement is necessary and, by offering the possibility of a reward when they submit video evidence of pollution, actually solicited. Moreover, compelling each County to establish such a program may well significantly deter participation behavior, which demeans, erodes and defaces a community.

In addition, Senate Bill 525 has the potential to assist our understaffed law enforcement agencies in their efforts to enforce illegal dumping and littering without drawing them away from other more pressing matters as to which they are required and expected to “Protect and Serve”.

It is for these reasons, I urge this committee to support Senate Bill 525, Illegal Dumping and Litter Control Law – Video Evidence and Reward Programs with a favorable vote.

Thank you