



Monday, January 26, 2026

The Honorable Brian Feldman
Chairman, Senate Education, Energy & Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 181 – Lead Ammunition – Phase-Out – FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Feldman and Members of the Committee:

My name is Peter Winch, and I am a Professor in the Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, and Co-Chair of the Johns Hopkins Sustainability Leadership Council. I am active in efforts to reduce exposure to lead in Bangladesh, and globally.

I am writing in strong support of SB 181, the phase-out of lead ammunition for hunting, for the following reasons:

- The harmful effects of lead on both human and animal health are indisputable. In humans, the harmful effects of lead extend to multiple body systems and organs, and frequently are irreversible. Globally, there are an estimated 5.5 million premature adult deaths from cardiovascular disease alone.
- Once lead and other heavy metals are in the environment, the effects persist, lasting many generations. Lead is a notable contributor to poor health of people living near long-abandoned mines, and long-abandoned industrial sites.
- Hunting can be practiced without lead in ammunition. The phase-out of lead ammunition will not adversely affect hunters.

I respectfully urge the Committee to issue a favorable report on SB 181. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Peter Winch". The signature is stylized and fluid.

Peter Winch MD MPH (he/his)

Professor, Social and Behavioral Interventions Program, Department of International Health
Co-Chair, Johns Hopkins University, Sustainability Leadership Council

- <https://sustainability.jhu.edu/who-we-are/slc/>

Peter Winch MD MPH (he/his), Professor, Department of International Health, Social and Behavioral Interventions Program, and Co-Chair, Johns Hopkins University, Sustainability Leadership Council
615 North Wolfe Street, Rm E5608, Baltimore MD 21205-2179 USA, Cell/WhatsApp 667 2287259, pwinch@jhu.edu