

Testimony Supporting SB342
Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
February 6, 2026

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Position: SUPPORT

Members of the Committee,

As a lifelong, 65 years, Maryland resident and taxpayer I urge you to pass SB342.

SB342 will reduce litter in our neighborhoods significantly—I have not met a person who does not share this goal, and the litter is worse in underserved communities, and it demoralizes our young people.

SB342 will significantly reduce plastic in our waterways—I am an avid hiker and kayaker and it is near impossible to spend time in our Maryland waterways now without coming across plastic pollution, overwhelmingly beverage containers.

SB342 will significantly reduce the amount of single-use plastic incinerated in the municipal waste incinerator 3 miles from where I live, which causes 800 premature deaths EVERY YEAR. Fracking wells and wastewater have been proven to cause childhood cancers. Fracturing rock and poisoning children to produce beverage containers and then burning those containers harming everyone is simply NOT SUSTAINABLE.

SB342 will be paid for by the polluters responsible for our single-use plastic nightmare.

Ask most any kid living in an urban area what is one of the biggest problems in their neighborhood and they will say litter--tell them we are going to start giving people ten cents for every beverage container they return instead of throwing away, or find in their neighborhood and return, and they are instantly on board with the idea.

We need our kids to be on board. Please pass SB342, for our kids if for no other reason.