

KATHERINE KLAUSMEIER
County Executive



LAUREN BUCKLER, P.E., *Director*
Department of Public Works and Transportation

February 19, 2026

TO: Maryland Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee
RE: SB 0655 Electronic Device Producer Responsibility Program – Established
Favorable

I am Richard Keller, Recycling and Waste Prevention Manager, Baltimore County Department of Public Works and Transportation, Bureau of Solid Waste Management.

The Bureau manages solid waste and recyclables in Baltimore County, including collection, processing, marketing (for recyclables), and disposal (for solid waste). Our goal is to extend the life of the County's only active landfill, the Eastern Sanitary Landfill. Recycling is a key component in reducing the volume of material going to the landfill, including recycling a wide variety of electronics.

Since 2012, Baltimore County has recycled over 15.3 million pounds of electronics received at our public collection sites, costing over \$1,000,000 to do so.

The proposed legislation (SB 655) would provide funding for electronics recycling and ease the financial burden on the County, create jobs, and increase our supply of raw materials. The bill will also divert tax revenues for other public sector services and allow us to expand the program to accept more materials.

It will also fund a set of on-site staff dedicated solely for receiving and packaging all types of electronics. Workplace safety will improve, especially related to stacking and palletizing large, heavy electronics that have tipping risks when there are not enough staff to assist.

Baltimore County supports this legislation to help us expand our recycling and worker safety efforts.

We urge a favorable report on SB 655.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Richard Keller

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