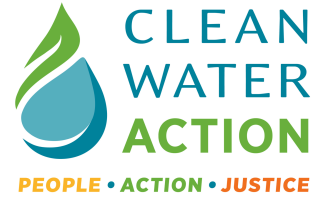




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Bill: HB 164 State Buildings and State Highways - Collection and Disposal of Yard Waste
Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment
Hearing Date: March 24, 2026
Position: **Support**

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice-Chair Kagan, and Honorable Committee Members:

We support HB 164 – State Buildings and State Highways - Collection and Disposal of Yard Waste, which prohibits disposing of yard waste collected on state building grounds or state highways in a single-use plastic container.

We enthusiastically support the goal of reducing plastic waste and supporting a transition away from single-use plastic. This bill's requirement to collect yard waste in a container that is not a single-use plastic container disposed of with the yard waste, or to collect and dispose of yard waste in a compostable paper bag, will make it easier to recycle organic materials. This will help further divert yard waste from disposal and support Maryland's recycling and diversion goals.

Prohibiting the collection and disposal of yard waste in single-use plastic containers also helps set a visible example to educate and support wider adoption of similar policies to transition away from single-use plastics in local jurisdictions.

For these reasons, we respectfully request a favorable report on HB 164.

Contact: Kelly Doordan (kelly@trashfreemaryland.org), Executive Director, Trash Free Maryland

Trash Free Maryland
Anacostia Riverkeeper
Clean Water Action
National Aquarium
Safe Skies Maryland
Vernal Pool Partners
Veteran Compost