



Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice-Chair  
Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: *House Bill 164: State Buildings and State Highways - Collection and Disposal of Yard Waste - SUPPORT***

**March 24, 2026**

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

On behalf of the Maryland Turfgrass Council (MTC) and the Mid-Atlantic Sports Field Management Association, we write this letter in support of House Bill 164: *State Buildings and State Highways - Collection and Disposal of Yard Waste*.

The Maryland Turfgrass Council (MTC) is a non-profit organization that represents all areas of the turf industry including golf, sports turf, sod producers, landscape, lawncare and commercial vendors and suppliers. The Mid-Atlantic Sports Field Management Association (MASFMA) is a non-profit organization that is composed of sports turf field managers and workers from Maryland, Delaware, Washington D.C., and Northern Virginia. Once again, MASFMA has partnered with Maryland Turfgrass Council (MTC) this year to bring a more unified front from all aspects of our industry.

As written, HB164, would prohibit State employees or contractors from disposing of yard waste collected on the grounds of a State building or a State highway in a single-use plastic container. In addition, the bill requires that such yard waste be collected in a container that will not be discarded with the yard waste or that is a compostable paper bag.

This legislation was introduced last year and successfully passed the House chamber. According to the Department of Legislative Services' (DLS) fiscal (from 2025), it states that fiscal impacts to state, local and business effects would be "minimal". Moreover, the fiscal note also state that "most State agencies responsible for the removal of large quantities of yard waste from State buildings or highways indicate that the bill has no fiscal effect on their operations."

Given the minimal impacts, but the environmental importance this legislation would have to the State, MTC and MASFMA firmly supports the passage of HB164 and humbly seeks this committee for a FAVORABLE report.

Sincerely,

*Clint Steele*

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Clint Steele  
President, MASFMA

*Logan Freeman*

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Logan Freeman  
President. MTC