



Maryland Division
The Izaak Walton League of America
707 Conservation Lane
Gaithersburg, Maryland 20878-2983

DATE: February 24, 2026

TO: Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Senator Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice-Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

RE: Support for SB 719 – Sewage Sludge - Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances - Regulation

Honorable Senators Feldman and Kagan:

On behalf of the Maryland Division-Izaak Walton League (MD-IWLA), I am asking you to support SB 719-- Sewage Sludge - Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances – Regulation. Adopting this bill will set specific maximum concentrations of these substances (broadly known as PFAS) allowed in sewage sludge for land application. Sewage sludge land applied as fertilizer has been shown as a source of PFAS getting into nearby waterways and even into individual drinking water wells.

The bill also sets specific deadlines for compliance, required source tracking studies, and required mitigation plans. This focus on source tracking is critical to significantly reduce the ‘forever chemicals’ that may pass through wastewater treatment plants into sewage sludge.

Through our National Conservation Policy Handbook, our organization has recognized that these chemicals are contaminating the waters and land across our country and threatening the health of people, communities, and wildlife. The State of Maryland will take a major step forward to reducing these impacts by the requirements in this bill.

Chartered in 1945, the MD-IWLA (www.marylandiwla.org) includes over 4,300 avid anglers, hunters, and outdoor sports enthusiasts who are committed to the wise stewardship of our soil, air, woods, waters, and wildlife. We urge you to support SB 719 to continue Maryland’s stewardship of our natural resources and protecting the health of its residents.

Sincerely,

Curt Howard, President
Maryland Division-Izaak Walton League of America