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The Town of Cheverly
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January 30, 2026

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chair
The Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair
Members, Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
Maryland Senate
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee:

Re:Support for Senate Bill 342 – Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program

On behalf of the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Cheverly, we respectfully submit this letter in support of Senate Bill 342 – Maryland Beverage Container Recycling Refund and Litter Reduction Program, the Senate companion to House Bill 331.

The Town of Cheverly is directly impacted by beverage container litter and plastic pollution. As a community located within the Anacostia watershed, discarded beverage containers regularly enter local streets, storm drains, and waterways, contributing to environmental degradation and increased cleanup demands on municipal resources.

Although recycling services are available, beverage containers continue to represent a significant portion of roadside and waterway litter. This results in higher costs for litter removal, disposal, and stormwater management, while negatively affecting neighborhood appearance and overall quality of life for residents.

Senate Bill 342 offers a proven and effective solution. Beverage container deposit programs in other states have consistently achieved recycling rates exceeding 90 percent, significantly reducing litter and increasing the recovery of high-quality recyclable materials. For municipalities like Cheverly, this program would lead to cleaner public spaces, improved water quality, and reduced strain on public works operations.

Equally important, the program would shift the financial responsibility for beverage container recycling from local governments to beverage producers, generating meaningful savings for taxpayers and allowing municipalities to focus limited resources on other essential services.

For these reasons, the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Cheverly strongly urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 342. We appreciate your leadership and consideration of legislation that supports environmental protection, fiscal responsibility, and the well-being of Maryland's communities.

Thank you for your consideration and for your continued leadership on environmental protection and sustainability for Maryland's communities.

Sincerely,



Micah Watson
Mayor, Town of Cheverly

On behalf of the
Cheverly Mayor and Town Council

