



**The Maryland Department of the Environment  
Secretary Serena McIlwain**

***Senate Bill 625***

***Carbon Dioxide Capture, Removal, and Sequestration Projects - Regulations and Standards***

**Position:** Letter of Information  
**Committee:** Environment and Transportation  
**Date:** April 2, 2026  
**From:** Jeremy D. Baker, Director of Government Relations

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The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) offers the following **LETTER OF INFORMATION** for SB 625.

**Bill Summary**

Senate Bill 625 would require the Department to adopt regulations and standards governing the permitting of carbon dioxide capture, removal, and sequestration projects by January 1, 2028.

**Position Rationale**

The current language in Senate Bill 625 is broad and unspecific, implicating a wide array of existing technologies (e.g. carbon or direct air capture and underground storage) and emerging technologies (e.g. ocean-based carbon removal and enhanced rock weathering). Senate Bill 625 is filed under Title 2 of the Environmental Article; however the preamble states that the current practice of applying solid waste regulations to carbon removal is unsuitable. Solid Waste regulations are found under Title 9 and any change to applying solid waste regulations to be more suitable should be addressed in Title 9. The bill's preamble indicates a specific need to revise solid waste regulations that are "unsuitable" without specifying what practices are inadequate and must be altered. Certain regulations may be unsuitable due to underlying statutory authorities and directions provided to MDE. Additionally, direct air or carbon capture and sequestration technologies ultimately may require the state to adopt new regulations and seek EPA primacy related to the permitting of Class VI underground injection wells under the Safe Drinking Water Act. In other states, such programs require a large staff of technical subject matter experts and have been deeply controversial with surrounding communities.

MDE hopes this information is useful to the Committee and is available for questions related to SB 625.

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