

# Testimony Against HB1314

Honorable Delegates

Please enter an unfavorable decision about HB1314.

While I am not opposed to continuing the Urban Trees Program administered by the Chesapeake Bay Trust, I am extremely opposed to **making permanent a requirement** that the Governor include \$10,000,000 in the annual budget bill for the Urban Trees Program.

No program should ever have a permanent funding amount. Each year, the legislature has the fiduciary responsibility to review every program and determine whether funds allocated have been used:

- Effectively (legislative goals are being met)
- Efficiently (the goals were met with the least amount of funding necessary)

Knowing that the program will receive a guaranteed amount of funding every year, removes the incentive for state employees to use taxpayer money effectively and efficiently.

As long as the bill requires a permanent funding level of any amount, please enter an unfavorable decision about HB1314.

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