



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

***House Bill 984  
Mattress Stewardship Program – Establishment***

**Position:** Informational  
**Committee:** Environment and Transportation  
**Date:** February 27, 2026  
**From:** Jeremy D. Baker, Director of Government Relations

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The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) offers the following **INFORMATIONAL** testimony on HB 984.

**Bill Summary**

HB 984 would establish a mattress recycling program managed and funded by producers or their representative organizations. Under the bill, retailers may only sell mattresses from producers participating in an approved program. Additionally, the bill bans the disposal of mattresses in landfills or incinerators starting January 1, 2035, with limited exceptions. The Department and a new Advisory Board would oversee the program's regulations and implementation.

**Position Rationale**

Diverting mattresses from landfills supports Maryland's waste goals and reduces the financial and logistical burden on local governments under the Maryland Recycling Act. MDE estimates that there are between 22 and 35 years of remaining permitted landfill space in the State. Under HB 984, the Department would oversee mattress recycling by reviewing program plans and educating communities on successful, job-creating recycling models. Furthermore, MDE would be responsible for managing Advisory Board recommendations and incorporating them into official plans and regulations. To meet these requirements, the department would require additional staffing for regulation development, plan reviews, and compliance enforcement.

MDE hopes this information is helpful during its deliberations on HB 984 and is available for questions.

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