

**HB Bill # 167 Clean Air Quiet Communities Act      Position: Favorable**  
**Hearing Date: Feb 17, 2026.**  
**House Committee: Government, Labor and Elections**

Dear Chair Wells:

I am writing to express my support for HB 167.

The noise created by gasoline powered leaf blowers is so loud and ubiquitous during the growing season it damages human hearing and health. Moreover, gas fueled blowers emit shockingly high levels of carbon dioxide pollution making the air we breathe unsuitable for humans and wildlife.

**Given the increased efficiency and effectiveness of battery powered leaf blowers - now is the time to start transitioning.** An [article in Consumer Reports Magazine](#) evaluates the effectiveness and economics of battery operated leaf blowers versus traditional gas blower models. The testers found many battery operated models to be equally effective - **so the technology has finally evolved to the point where it is now a commercially smart and sustainable option with no negative economic impacts to these businesses.**

HB167 will also protect our state workers from constant exposure to exceedingly high decibel noise levels (typically in the 100 decibel range) that cause **irreversible damage to human hearing after only 15 minutes of exposure.** One can only imagine the cumulative negative health consequences to workers who are exposed to these noise levels **all day long** during the season.

Additionally, the **carbon monoxide levels emitted by gas powered blowers is [23 times](#)** that of the toxic carbon monoxide emitted by a pick- up truck tailpipe!

Given the fragile state of our environment we must act now to control what we can, and this is an economically feasible opportunity to improve the health of our planet, humans and wildlife. These factors should make **passage of HB167 a responsible and easy choice..**

**I urge the committee to vote in favor of HB167.** Let the state of Maryland lead by example. Thank you.

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