

RE: Testimony HB 167 Clean Air Quiet Communities Act

FROM: Russell Dickerson, Ph.D.

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As a commissioner on the Governor's Climate Change Commission, an atmospheric scientist, and a 30 year advisor to the Maryland Department of the Environment, I give the Clean Air Quiet Communities Act my strongest support. Two-stroke engines are machines for turning gasoline and oil into air pollution. They should only be used for emergency equipment (e.g., chain saws after a storm) when cleaner engines such as electric are ill suited. The gases and aerosols emitted by two-stroke engines are a direct threat to human health. Thousands of Marylanders are sickened or killed each year by ozone and fine particulate matter – these devices are an outsized contributor. There are suitable alternatives and this legislation is overdue.