



HoCoClimateAction.org
Howard County, Maryland

Testimony: [HB0167](#) – Gasoline-Powered Leaf Blowers - Purchase and Use - Prohibitions
Hearing Date: February 17, 2026
Bill Sponsor: Delegate Foley
Committee: Government, Labor, and Elections
Submitting: Liz Feighner for Howard County Climate Action
Position: Favorable

Dear Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr and Committee Members,

[HoCo Climate Action](#) is a [350.org](#) local chapter and a grassroots organization representing approximately 1,400 subscribers. We are also a member of the [Climate Justice Wing](#) of the [Maryland Legislative Coalition](#). Our organization works with residents and ally organizations to promote a safe climate and clean energy future. Specifically, we have worked extensively on building electrification to help Maryland achieve its ambitious climate goals, including net-zero emissions.

We urge you to vote favorably on **HB0167 – Gasoline-Powered Leaf Blowers - Purchase and Use - Prohibitions**, which would prohibit the State from purchasing gasoline-powered leaf blowers and prohibit the use of them by contractors and subcontractors on state owned properties.

Our organization has worked extensively on taking action on climate and energy issues to ensure a safe climate and to help Maryland achieve its ambitious climate goals of reducing GHG emissions. Protecting air quality promotes public health, saves lives, and reduces GHG pollution.

Besides the excessive noise they make, experts say these small, two-stroke engines release shockingly large amounts of pollution – two problems that modern and increasingly affordable electric-powered equipment solves. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, lawn and garden equipment such as lawn mowers, leaf blowers and weed trimmers emit more than 30 million tons of carbon dioxide in the U.S. annually, the equivalent of the entire city of Los Angeles. These impacts are especially harmful to workers, nearby residents, and people who rely on public spaces.

For these reasons, we support **HB0167** and recommend a **favorable** report.

Howard County Climate Action
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