



February 17, 2017

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Environment and Transportation Committee
Room 251, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 171 – Department of the Environment - Yard Waste and Food Residuals Diversion and Infrastructure – Study – **Support**

Dear Delegate Barve:

House Bill 171 requires the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) to study and make recommendations regarding the diversion of yard waste and food residuals from refuse disposal facilities in the State, including ways to encourage investment in infrastructure and to expand capacity for yard waste and food residuals diversion. MDE must consult with several State and local agencies (including The Maryland Department of Agriculture) as well as other private entities (including Maryland Farm Bureau) and report its interim and final findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by July 1, 2018 and July 1, 2019, respectively.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce supports the right for Maryland farmers to make and process mulch and compost from both on and off the farm sources.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 560 members, supports this bill and asks that you give it a favorable report

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Delegate Susan W. Krebs
Senator Justin Ready