



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Martin O'Malley
Governor

Robert M. Summers, Ph.D.
Secretary

Anthony G. Brown
Lieutenant Governor

April 1, 2014

The Honorable Joan Carter Conway
Members of the Education, Health,
and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West Wing
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Letter of Support, House Bill 629 - *Environmentally Preferable Procurement – Maryland Green Purchasing Committee*

Dear Senator Conway and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has reviewed House Bill 629, entitled *Environmentally Preferable Procurement – Maryland Green Purchasing Committee*, and would like to express our support for this legislation.

As a member of the Maryland Green Purchasing Committee, MDE has actively participated in the Committee's review of Environmentally Preferable Procurement as a path to complying with purchasing requirements under the Green Maryland Act. The Committee, which has broad representation of state agencies, has developed a set of specifications that will enable implementation of environmentally preferable purchasing by state units, reflecting the state's existing laws, regulations and sustainability goals. MDE believes that House Bill 629 would maintain the standards of the Green Maryland Act and provide greater participation by state agencies in meeting Maryland's commitment to resource sustainability.

Thank you for your consideration of this information as you review HB 629. Please contact me at 410-260-6301 or jeffrey.fretwell@maryland.gov if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Fretwell

