



# MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Martin O'Malley  
Governor

Robert M. Summers, Ph.D.  
Secretary

Anthony G. Brown  
Lieutenant Governor

February 12, 2014

The Honorable Peter A. Hammen  
Members of the Health and Government Operations Committee  
Room 241  
House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

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

Dear Delegate Hammen and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) has reviewed House Bill 629 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 is consistent with the goals of the Green Maryland Act, and will result in 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](mailto:jeffrey.fretwell@maryland.gov) if you would like to discuss this issue further.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Fretwell

Cc: Heather Barthel, Director, Legislation and Intergovernmental Affairs

