



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 209/SB 313
Plastics & Packaging Reduction Act * February 2020

I write today on behalf of Drink at the Well INC in support of the Plastics & Packaging Reduction Act, introduced by Del. Lierman and Sen. Augustine. This bill would ban plastic bags from distribution by stores at the point of sale and require stores to charge at least 10 cents for each paper bag or reusable carryout bag for sale.

This legislation is important for many reasons:

- It will clean up our communities and neighborhoods
- It will clean up our waterways and the Bay
- It will ensure that consumers only pay for what they need – if they do not need a paper bag, they will not need to buy one
- It will hold retailers harmless so that they continue to operate and expand food access to all neighborhoods, including under-resourced neighborhoods
- It will save residents, local governments, and businesses money spent on clean up and trash disposal

We have two large lots that we take care of at our facility. We are constantly keeping up on all the trash. The plastic bags are a huge contributor to this waste. We have seen where the water drains into the river at Masonville Cove. It is difficult to see these plastics in our water ways. We know it will affect our future generations. We believe that we should lead by example. We believe at the Well that we should be a life model for others. Let us model to our upcoming generations a different way. It may be difficult adjustment at first but all life change is. We are ready for the challenge that will grow and mature us!

Thank you for considering this legislation. We urge a favorable report.

Mandy Memmel
Founder / Executive Director
Drink at the Well INC (The Well)
Hon's Honey

4710 Pennington Ave
Baltimore, MD 21226