

Maryland-Delaware Solid Waste Association

a chapter of the

**National
Waste & Recycling
AssociationSM**

Collect. Recycle. Innovate.

TO: The Honorable Kumar P. Barve, Chair
Members, House Environment and Transportation Committee
The Honorable Dana Stein

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: January 15, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 164 – *Department of the Environment – Office of Recycling – Recycling Market Development*

The Maryland Delaware Solid Waste Association (MDSWA), a chapter of the National Waste and Recycling Association, is a trade association representing the private solid waste industry in the State of Maryland. Its membership includes hauling and collection companies, processing and recycling facilities, transfer stations, and disposal facilities. MDSWA and its members **support** House Bill 164.

House Bill 164 requires the Office of Recycling in the Department of the Environment to promote the development of markets for recycled materials and recycled products in the State. The Office is to coordinate these efforts with the Department of Commerce, the Department of General Services, the Department of Transportation, the Maryland Environmental Service, the Northeast Waste Disposal Authority, local governments, and private organizations in order to develop a comprehensive understanding of the programs, training guides, and technologies available to promote the development of markets for recycled materials and recycled products in the State including efforts in State government to increase the use, reuse, and remanufacturing of recycled materials and the use of recycled products.

Market development is at the core of a sustainable recycling system. Without markets for recyclable materials and recycled products in the State, local jurisdictions will not be able to maintain their recycling programs and/or the expense of recycling will far exceed the cost of disposal of otherwise recyclable materials. There have been many proposals that aim to incentivize recycling such as disposal bans and container deposits but ultimately without a strong market for recyclable materials, these programs cannot succeed. Passage of House Bill 164 will focus the attention of all key stakeholders on the most critical component of maintaining and expanding the State recycling programs. A favorable report is requested.

For more information call:

Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
410-244-7000