



HB62 Land Use - Public Service Companies – Pollinator- Friendly Vegetation Management Economic Matters Committee February, 2023

Position: Favorable with Amendments

Thank you Del. Charkoudian, for sponsoring this legislation to create more habitat for pollinators, birds, and wildlife in utility right of ways. We have all heard about the serious plight of these critical species and opening utility right of ways for more natural habitat can increase safe places for these critters to thrive.

We urge a favorable report with the sponsor amendments. These amendments include the very important clarification to protect that very habitat that this bill creates from harm from pesticides and herbicides. It does the world no good if the pollinators, birds, and other wildlife attracted to the habitat are then poisoned using toxic chemicals. The amendments recognize the occasional need to use these products but only as a last resort.

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