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Testimony on House Bill 386
Pesticides - PFAS Chemicals – Prohibitions
House Health and Government Operations

Position: Favorable

Maryland Nonprofits is a statewide association of nonprofit organizations and institutions of all sizes and public service missions across the entire state. To protect the health of Marylanders and Maryland's environment, we ask you to support House Bill 386 and to gradually prohibit the sale or use of pesticides that containing known PFAS as an active ingredient.

People are hearing about PFAS “forever chemicals” in drinking water and other products. This bill is focused on the PFAS-pesticides which are “forever pesticides”. They are extremely persistent and degrade into other PFAS chemicals such as TFA. They can last for lifetimes in the environment.

Pesticides with PFAS contaminate our indoors, impacting schools, hospitals, homes, and businesses, and outdoor environments contaminating lawns, parks, soil, surface and drinking water, crops, fish, and crabs.

- Pesticides runoff of fields into waterways, spreading PFAS contamination to soil, surface and drinking water, and Bay ecosystems.
- Increasingly, school water systems and wells are testing positive for PFAS at levels well above EPA limits for drinking water, requiring schools to provide bottled water.
- Surface water from the Potomac and Patuxent Rivers supplies drinking water to millions of Marylanders. Chesapeake Waterkeepers sampled for PFAS chemicals in 12 locations in Maryland waterways. PFAS was found in all the water samples including the Potomac. The highest concentration was over 1,300 ppt in Piscataway Creek.

We strongly urge you to give House Bill 386 a Favorable Report



Maryland Nonprofits' mission is to strengthen organizations and networks for greater quality of life and equity.