

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Robert M. Summers, Ph.D. **Deputy Secretary**

March 18, 2009

The Honorable Sheila E. Hixson, Chair Members, House Ways & Means Committee House Office Building, Room 131 Annapolis, MD 21401-1912

Re: House Bill 1363: County Boards of Education - Procurement of Green Product Cleaning Supplies

Dear Chairperson Hixson & Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide information on House Bill 1363, which requires a county board of education to procure green product cleaning supplies for its schools; and requires other directives related to this issue. The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) supports House Bill 1363. We are aware of the positive impact on the environment that can be derived from an increase in the utilization of "Green Products" as well as the benefits gained from the decrease in potential exposure that students may encounter when non-green cleaning products are used in their schools.

Thank you for allowing us to express our support for House Bill 1363. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me at 410-260-6301.

Sincerely,

Lisa Nissley Legislative Liaison

CC. Heather Barthel Susan Scotto

