



**TO: House Environment and Transportation Committee**

**RE: HB61 – Solid Waste, Recycling and Anaerobic Digestion**

The Maryland Recycling Network promotes sustainable reduction, reuse and recycling of materials otherwise destined for disposal and the purchase of products made with recyclable material content. We achieve these goals through education programs, advocacy activities to affect public policy, technical assistance efforts, and the development of markets to purchase recycled materials and manufacture products with recycled content. Our members include county and municipal as well as private sector recycling professionals from throughout the state.

We are writing to share our support of HB61 as amended. We believe that the development of regulations for anaerobic digestion will be helpful in allowing one more avenue for recovery of resources from organic material that would otherwise be disposed in a landfill. We also support responsible recycling practices and although we are not sure of the need to require permitting for recycling facilities, we welcome the opportunity to participate with the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) on the development of appropriate permitting requirements for recycling facilities.

The Maryland Recycling Network stands ready to serve as a sounding board and resource for legislators and others interested in pursuing our mission. Please do not hesitate to contact me at [phoustle@marylandrecyclingnetwork.org](mailto:phoustle@marylandrecyclingnetwork.org) , 301-725-2508 or MRN, PO Box 1640 Columbia Maryland 21044 if you have any questions or would like additional information regarding the above.

We look forward to working with you to continue the strides we have all made to improve Maryland's recycling programs in a time-effective and cost-effective manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter M. Houstle".

Peter Houstle  
Executive Director

**Maryland Recycling Network**  
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