



TO: Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

RE: SB 99 – Yard Waste and Food Residuals Diversion and Infrastructure Study

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 SB 99. We welcome the opportunity to participate with the Department of the Environment, the Department of Commerce and the other task force participants in studying ways in which to move Maryland forward with recovery of food scrap and other organic wastes in an environmentally safe and economically sustainable manner.

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, 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". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P".

Peter Houstle
Executive Director

Maryland Recycling Network
www.marylandrecyclingnetwork.org * 888-496-3196