



**THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS**  
*of Montgomery County, MD, Inc.*

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January 28, 2015

**In re: Attention: T&E Committee and other Councilmembers, regarding Bill 52-14,  
Pesticides - Notice Requirements – Non-Essential Pesticides- Prohibitions**

Dear Chair Berliner and other members of the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee – as well as other county councilmembers:

I am writing to you to inform you that **the League of Women Voters of Montgomery County strongly supports** bill 52-14.

Here are some of our reasons:

- Health. Given the negative effects (both known and still to be discovered, and including neurotoxicity) of many pesticides on human health, it is wise to limit our exposure to these pesticides – as this bill would do.
- Environment. There is also wisdom in limiting the exposure of our environment – including drainage to our streams and subsequently to the Chesapeake Bay – to pesticides to limit their effects on other living creatures. (Other organizations are presenting early information on damaging effects on macroinvertebrates in streams.)
- Education. The bill would also raise the awareness of homeowners, who are not required to have the training that professional applicators have, to the wisdom of not using larger amounts of pesticides than actually necessary and alert them to alternate choices in plantings that do not require any pesticide use or which employ the use of safer products through integrated pest management.

LWVMC is pleased that Montgomery County is seriously considering following the example of the city of Takoma Park in better regulating pesticide use and setting a national precedent.

Yours truly,

Linna Barnes, President