



## **CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND**

### **HB 400 Support**

#### **Environment and Transportation Committee**

#### **HB 400 – Agriculture – Mosquito Control – Notification to Municipalities**

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The City of Takoma Park is very supportive of HB 400, which would require the State, a county, or a bicounty agency to provide a municipality with notice at least 24 hours in advance before an agency sprays a pesticide to control mosquitos within municipal limits with information about the location of the spraying, and the planned date and time of the spraying.

As evidenced by the City of Takoma Park’s “Safe Grow Act” – which places restrictions on the use of cosmetic pesticides for lawn care on public and private property – we take the application of pesticides, which can contain harmful and environmentally damaging chemicals, very seriously. In the event that pesticides must be sprayed due to a public health threat (such as the potential spread of the Zika Virus), we would want as much advanced notice as possible so that we could take measures to communicate with residents, especially those in areas most impacted.

For these reasons, the City of Takoma Park supports HB 400 and urges a favorable vote on the bill.