



CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH &  
PROTECTION ADVISORY COUNCIL

May 11, 2021

Joseph Bartenfelder  
Secretary  
Maryland Department of Agriculture  
[joe.bartenfelder@maryland.gov](mailto:joe.bartenfelder@maryland.gov)

Dear Secretary Bartenfelder,

The Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council (CEHPAC) was established in 2000 pursuant to Chapter 585 of the Acts of 2000. CEHPAC advises the Governor and the General Assembly on environmental issues that may pose a threat to children. CEHPAC seeks to identify environmental hazards that may affect children's health and to recommend solutions to those hazards through interdisciplinary problem solving and coalition building.

At CEHPAC's April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 meeting, a motion was adopted requesting from MDA a review of the Maryland School Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Law to ensure that COVID-19 pandemic related actions are addressed in MDA Regulations (COMAR 15.05.02), County Board of Education mandated IPM Policy, and County level IPM Plans. Specifically, the Council requests that MDA address:

- 1) Prompt school-based transparent public and open data reporting of EPA registered pesticides
  - a) used for disinfecting protocols (including all product labels and SDS information)
  - b) verifiable strategic and regulatory measures taken to reduce exposure to any type of respiratory irritant used indoor for disinfecting as their use affects indoor air quality and therefore school occupants.
  
- 2) An update on each school districts' compliance with and implementation of the Maryland School IPM Law, to include a mandated policy and update the regulations and the required written policies to include EPA registered pesticide products used to control pathogens, based on a review of the of COVID-19 pandemic information and guidance provided by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

We invite you or a designee to attend our next **CEHPAC meeting scheduled for June 20, 2021** or another upcoming meeting so we can discuss these concerns. Meeting dates and details are

available at <https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/OEHFP/EH/Pages/children-environmental-health.aspx>. If there are questions about this request, please let me know by email ([cliff.mitchell@maryland.gov](mailto:cliff.mitchell@maryland.gov)). Please note this request is being made on behalf of CEHPAC and is not a request by the Maryland Department of Health or any other State agency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clifford Mitchell", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Clifford Mitchell, MS, MD, MPH

Chair, Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council

cc: Devon Dodson  
Co-Chair, Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council

Rob Hofstetter,  
Pesticide Regulation Section, Maryland Department of Agriculture