

Bill 19-25E

Council members,

Companies have had 5 YEARS to prepare for this, and this is being thrown at us 2 weeks before the prohibition goes into effect? This is an incredibly transparent attempt to tank this bill at the last minute. I'm a Montgomery County resident and won't be voting for any of my council members that support this bill if you succeed in pushing this offensive and damaging Hail Mary exemption through. All of my neighbors, family, and friends in the county feel the same way. Enough is enough.

I'd like to remind you of the reasons this bill went into effect in the first place:

Gas-powered blowers **damage the hearing of landscape workers.**

The decibels from gas-powered blowers [have been shown in study after study](#) to be damaging to physical and mental health, **including childhood learning delays and low birth weight.**

Gas-powered blowers are **exceedingly polluting.** We're in the middle of a climate crisis in case you're not aware. Now is not the time to kick the can down the road three years.

This exemption would penalize companies that have already invested in the proper electric equipment to handle the busiest season. Plus, there are provisions in the law to provide rebates to landscapers (especially small ones) to help pay for electric blowers that are considerably cheaper.

Since October to January is by far the time when we are assaulted with the worst levels and frequency of noise and pollution, **this exemption completely undermines the bill.**

Please do not cater to whiny businesses and instead **prioritize the citizens and workers of the county.** Companies are not required to give citizens any notice whatsoever when they jack

prices by 30-50% several times a year, but we give companies years to plan for impacts, and continue babying them when they complain. Do right by your constituents and enact this law with no exemptions!!!

Gaurav (District 6)