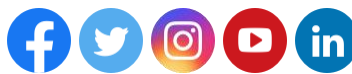




www.marylandfb.org | Contact: [Colby Ferguson](#) or [Pat Wolff](#)



Hotline #1

January 20, 2023



Wednesday, February 8, 2023 | Maryland Farm Bureau Members Only!

8:15 a.m. Morning Reception

8:30 a.m. – Legislative Briefing

9:45 a.m. – Walk over to the Statehouse / Legislative Offices

11:45 a.m. – Lunch with Legislators – Governor Calvert House

1:00 p.m. – Continue Legislative Meetings / Head Home

Registration: Deadline to register is Sunday, January 29, 2023.

[Register Here](#)

Welcome to the first Hotline of the 2023 Maryland General Assembly session. The Hotline will be sent to you each week during the session to make you aware of upcoming hearings for bills that will impact Maryland's farm community. We will ask Farm Bureau members to take action on proposed legislation to ensure the preservation and protection of Maryland agriculture.

Colby Ferguson will staff Maryland Farm Bureau's Annapolis office. The office is located on the 2nd floor at 68 State Circle on the corner of Maryland Avenue. The best way to reach Colby is via text, email, or leave a voicemail message. He will get back to you as soon as possible. You can

reach Colby on his cell phone at (240) 578-0396 or by email at cferguson@marylandfb.org.

Hotline descriptions will include the title of the bill, our summary, and Maryland Farm Bureau's position. Our positions are based on policy adopted by grassroots members at our annual convention. To view the Maryland General Assembly fiscal analysis link, click the bill number hyperlink or Maryland Farm Bureau's position button at the bottom of the text. Please keep in mind that the positions taken in each Hotline by the Maryland Farm Bureau are based on the information available on the bill at the time of publication. Our position may change if the bill is amended after publication.

Hotline will be posted on the [MDFB website](#) each week. Maryland Farm Bureau members are urged to contact their legislators and members of the relevant committees in support of Maryland Farm Bureau's positions on the bills.

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

SB12: Corporations and Associations – Annual Report Filing Fees – Electronic Filing

Exemption

Senator Brooks, JPR at 1:00 PM

This bill exempts business entities from paying the filing fee required with the submission of an annual report to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) if the annual report is filed electronically. This would include a farm.

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SB29: Baltimore City Soil Conservation District - Establishment - Requirements

Senator McCray, EEE at 1:00 PM

This bill establishes provisions governing the establishment of a Baltimore City Soil Conservation District (SCD) pursuant to the authority provided under current law.

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SB34: Department of Agriculture - State Ombudsman for Value-Added Agriculture

Senator Hester, EEE at 1:00 PM

Value-added agriculture means (1) the alteration of a raw agricultural product in a way that increases the product's worth to a consumer and brings more revenue to a farmer, producer, or processor; and (2) includes all enterprises in which an agricultural business or the agricultural business's products are altered, marketed, produced, or processed in a way that adds income to a farmer, producer, or processor. The state ombudsman for value-added agriculture shall: (1) serve as the primary point of contact for individuals engaging in, or interested in engaging in, value-added agriculture in the state; (2) provide information regarding state and federal regulations relating to value-added agriculture; (3) act as a liaison between state and federal partners involved in value-added agriculture; and (4) perform any other duty or function that supports value-added agriculture in the state, as required by the secretary.

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SB124: Maryland Food System Resiliency Council

Senator Hester, EEE at 1:00 PM

This bill tweaks the current law to create the Office of Resilience within the Maryland Department of Emergency Management. This department will provide the staffing for the council.

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Committees & Room Numbers:

Senate: Budget & Taxation (B&T), 3 West Miller; Education, Energy and the Environment (EEE), 2 West Miller; Finance (FIN), 3 East Miller; Judicial Proceedings (JPR), 2 East Miller

House: Appropriations (APP), 120 HOB; Economic Matters (ECM), 230 HOB; Environment & Transportation (E&T), 250 HOB; Health & Government Operations (HGO), 240 HOB; Judiciary (JUD), 100 HOB; Ways & Means (W&M) 130 HOB



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