

February 24, 2021

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chairman Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Re: Senate Bill 616 – Baltimore City Soil Conservation District – Authority to Establish

Position: Support

Chairman Pinsky & Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts to express our *support* for Senate Bill 616 – Baltimore City Soil Conservation District – Authority to Establish. This enabling legislation allows Baltimore City to establish a local soil conservation district office to serve urban farmers and city residents.

The Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts proudly represents 24 districts across the state. These individual districts promote healthy soil practices and water quality projects to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. I respectfully request a *favorable* report of Senate Bill 616, which shows your support of the agricultural community and a healthier Chesapeake Bay.

Thank you for your kind consideration and attention to this legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jen Nelson, Executive Director Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts