



JOHN A. OLSZEWSKI, JR.
County Executive

JENNIFER AIOSA
Director of Government Affairs

AMANDA KONTZ CARR
Legislative Officer

JOSHUA M. GREENBERG
Associate Director of Government Affairs

BILL NO.: **HB 289**

TITLE: Maryland Forestry Education Fund - Establishment

SPONSOR: Delegate Stein

COMMITTEE: Environment and Transportation

POSITION: **SUPPORT**

DATE: March 1, 2023

Baltimore County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 289 – Maryland Forestry Education Fund - Establishment. This legislation would establish the Maryland Forestry Education Fund.

The Baltimore County Forestry Board has been an active force for preserving and taking care of the County’s natural resources. Forestry Boards are a vital tool for educating and working directly with residents on maintaining forest land and conducting reforestations. As local governments continue to work towards fighting climate change and preserving natural

House Bill 289 would provide much needed support for local forestry boards. This legislation would expand the capacity of the Maryland Forestry Foundation to provide grants to local forestry boards for training and outreach programs. With expanded capacity to provide assistance, local forestry boards would be empowered to educate residents on how to be responsible stewards of forest land and assist the County in protecting and preserving its valuable forests.

Accordingly, Baltimore County requests a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 289. For more information, please contact Jenn Aiosa, Director of Government Affairs at jaiosa@baltimorecountymd.gov.