Office of the Secretary

Wes Moore, Governor
Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor
Kevin Atticks, Secretary
Steven A. Connelly, Deputy Secretary

The Wayne A. Cawley, Jr. Building 50 Harry S Truman Parkway Annapolis, Maryland 21401 mda.maryland.gov Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry

410.841.5885 Baltimore/Washington 410.841.5846 Fax

## Maryland Department of Agriculture Legislative Comment Date: January 23, 2024

**BILL NUMBER:** Senate Bill 290

**SHORT TITLE:** Certified Local Farm and Fish - Reporting Requirement - Alterations

MDA POSITION: Support

**SB 290- -** This proposed legislation alters the reporting date on which a report pertaining to waivers under this Program is to be submitted to the BPW; and altering the date on which the BPW is to submit a record stemming from this report to certain legislative committees. Currently, for the Certified Local Farm and Fish program, MDA needs to report state agencies\universities waiver requests to BPW by *July 30* and state agencies\universities food purchase reports are due to MDA by *Sept 30*.

## **Background:**

The Department would like to make the waiver request report and the program report due on the same date and alter the due date to December 31st of each year. It will be more streamlined and efficient for staff.

If you have additional questions, please contact Rachel Jones, MDA Director of Government Relations at <u>Rachel Jones2@maryland.gov</u> or (667) 408-0134.