

CROSSOVER BILL SB0915\_RichardKaplowitz\_FAV  
04/03/2024

Richard Keith Kaplowitz  
Frederick, MD 21703

**TESTIMONY ON CROSSOVER BILL SB#/0915 – FAVORABLE**

**Agriculture – Invasive Plant Species – Regulation (Biodiversity and Agriculture Protection Act)**

**TO:** Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce, and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

**My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of CROSSOVER BILL SB#0915, Agriculture – Invasive Plant Species – Regulation (Biodiversity and Agriculture Protection Act)**

This bill calls on Maryland to apply the most current scientific knowledge in formulating regulations to control invasive plant species in the State. It will streamline the process and give additional authority and requirements for the Secretary of Agriculture to establish a list of prohibited invasive plants with regulations governing the same. It also creates protocols for determination of plants status as invasive or requiring further watching and study.

Protection of native species and agriculture is a primary function of the Secretary of Agriculture. This bill will assist in fulfillment of that obligation.

**I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on CROSSOVER BILL SB#0915.**