

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2008 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

House Joint Resolution 2 (Delegate Pena-Melnyk, *et al.*)
Rules and Executive Nominations

**Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the National
Agricultural Library**

This joint resolution expresses support for the research and education programs of the Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center and the National Agricultural Library and requests the Governor to urge the President of the United States to include a budget increase for, and the Maryland Congressional Delegation to secure funds for, those institutions so that they may remain viable.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. Compliance with this joint resolution would not affect State finances.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Background: The Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center is one of the locations of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Research Service in the Beltsville area. According to the ARS, BARC is the largest and most diversified agricultural research complex in the world. The land for the center was purchased in 1910 by the USDA and the name of Henry A. Wallace, a former Secretary of Agriculture (1932-40) who oversaw a major expansion of the center, was added to the center in 2000.

The National Agricultural Library is established in USDA, under federal law, to serve as the primary agricultural information resource of the United States. According to NAL, it houses one of the world's largest and most accessible agricultural information collections and serves as the nexus for a national network of state land-grant and USDA field libraries.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: SJ 2 (Senator Rosapepe, *et al.*) – Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs.

Information Source(s): U.S. Department of Agriculture, Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 8, 2008
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