



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

3358 Davidsonville Road • Davidsonville, MD 21035 • (410) 922-3426

February 19, 2020

To: Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: **Support of SB 644 - Income Tax Checkoff - The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund**

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony in support of SB 644, legislation that adds a voluntary check-off on the individual income tax-return form for people to be able to voluntarily contribute to the "The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund Contribution." So essentially this bill allows citizens of Maryland to be able to contribute to funding recommendations in the Kirwan Commission.

The cost of the proposed Blueprint for Maryland's Future is projected to cost \$4 billion a year by 2030. The current state budget is a little over \$44 billion a year. To expand the state budget by nearly 10% just for education is going to put tremendous pressure on many Maryland citizens. However, there are some that are willing to and have the wealth to be able to invest more in our public education system. This bill would allow those citizens the opportunity to do so.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS SB 644 & ENCOURAGES A FAVORABLE REPORT

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colby Ferguson'.

Colby Ferguson
Director of Government Relations

For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396