

# **MarylandFarmBureau\_FAV\_SB644**

Uploaded by: Ferguson, Colby

Position: FAV



# 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*

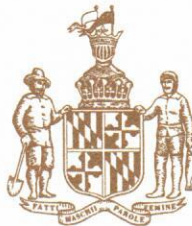
# **Senator Gallion\_SB644\_FAV**

Uploaded by: Senator Gallion, Senator Gallion

Position: FAV

JASON C. GALLION  
Legislative District 35  
Harford and Cecil Counties

Education, Health, and  
Environmental Affairs Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
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Port Deposit, Maryland 21904

February 19th, 2020

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair and Members

Senate Budget and Tax Committee

Re: Senate Bill SB 644 – Income Tax Checkoff - The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund

Position: Support

Chairman Guzzone and B&T Committee Members:

SB644 simply adds an income tax checkoff option for voluntary contributions to The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this proposed legislation.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jason Gallion".

Senator Jason Gallion

**MACo\_INFO\_SB644**

Uploaded by: Kinnally, Kevin

Position: INFO



## **Senate Bill 644**

### *Income Tax Checkoff - The Blueprint for Maryland's Future Fund*

MACo POLICY STATEMENT  
(Letter of Information)

To: Budget and Taxation Committee

Date: February 19, 2020

From: Kevin Kinnally

### **Equity with New Revenue Sources**

The State's commitment to substantial new education investments has inspired legislation to authorize new activities that carry substantial new revenue potential. The costs of these ambitious school initiatives, as proposed, will also carry a major cost to county governments, many of whom are already straining their current revenue structures.

Only with sufficient funding will county governments be able to work in partnership with the State to advance our schools' competitiveness and outcomes. **As such, any new funding source identified and approved by the State to support new education initiatives should have a commensurate authority or equitable distribution to support county governments statewide as true partners in education investments.**

MACo advocates for adequate, fair, and reasonable funding for all of Maryland's students, and urges State policymakers to sustain a robust level of public education funding without unduly burdening county budgets or slighting other essential local services.

MACo and county governments stand ready to work with State policymakers toward a productive funding partnership to ensure a world-class education system for all Maryland students.