

KATIE FRY HESTER
Legislative District 9
Carroll and Howard Counties

Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee

Chair, Joint Committee on
Cybersecurity, Information Technology
and Biotechnology



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 12, 2020

**Testimony in Support of SB1035 - Hemp Farming Program - Expansion -
Processing Hemp**

Chairman Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee:

Thank you for your consideration of Senate Bill 1035. This simple bill provides clarification that the Maryland Department of Agriculture has regulatory authority over the processing of hemp, and can carry out the duties they are required to by Federal Law. The Department determined this reinforcement language was needed to ensure proper regulation and oversight of hemp processing within the State.

Included in your bill file you will find a letter of support from the Department of Agriculture in support of this legislation. **I respectfully request a favorable report for SB1035.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Fry Hester".

Senator Katie Fry Hester
Howard and Carroll Counties