

HB100 - Maryland Agricultural Commission - Hemp Industry Member  
SUPPORT  
Ice Hollow Farms

Ice Hollow Farms is proud to support HB100 - Maryland Agricultural Commission - Hemp Industry Member. We truly appreciate Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo for his sponsorship and ongoing advocacy for the Maryland industrial hemp industry. We are grateful to Chairman Barve and the Environment and Transportation Committee for their consideration of not only this legislation, but the ongoing strength of hemp farming, processing, and marketing in Maryland.

HB100 is a natural next step for the Department of Agriculture and advocates for Maryland hemp. Adding a member representing the hemp industry to the Maryland Agricultural Commission will ensure this growing agriculture sector has a voice at the table and is able to provide input to the Department. We feel that this is particularly important given the geographic diversity of the populations of farmers as well as the lack of processors in Maryland. Ice Hollow Farms is located in Western Maryland - we view this additional member to the Commission as an additional tool to remain connected to the industry. Further, this member would provide us with an additional avenue to advocate for our region, growers in our growth class, and methods to constantly improve the diversity of the industry participants.

Ice Hollow Farms has appreciated the Department of Agriculture's challenges with initiating a new program in the midst of the Department's other responsibilities. We note the Administration's investment this year for two new staff positions to work for the establishment of a permanent program - as other states have done following the 2018 US Farm Bill provisions. We are excited to continue to work on improvements for this job-creating economic driver in all regions of the state

*About Ice Hollow Farms*

Ice Hollow Farms is a license holder under the Maryland Industrial Hemp Program based in Hancock, Maryland (Washington County). Ice Hollow Farms is working to re-establish agriculture in orchard land that was left fallow and not used for farming. We are investigating soil remediation in this land that was treated with 1940s-1960s era pesticides and irrigation through lead pipes.

Ice Hollow Farms has been challenged, as with other Maryland farmers, by the lack of processing facilities. The market will not grow in Maryland without these specialized agricultural facilities. Whereas CBD production from processed flower is the product of choice at the time, expansion into the food, fiber, building materials and other markets will not occur without advocacy by agricultural agencies.

Ice Hollow Farms  
<https://icehollowfarms.com/>  
Represented By:  
Katie Nash, Greater Good Maryland  
greatergoodmaryland@gmail.com/301.524.9142