



Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, Secretary
Charles Glass, Deputy Secretary

February 27, 2020

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
250 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Dana Stein
Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee
250 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Letter of Information – HB 1146 – Forest Conservation – Mel Noland Woodland Incentives Fund – Distribution of Agricultural Land Transfer Tax Revenue

Dear Chair Barve, Vice Chair Stein and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Nature Resources is providing the following information on House Bill 1146.

The bill would change the maximum amount of transfer tax allowed to be distributed to the Maryland Forest Service and in doing so expand the services offered by the Maryland Forest Service with those funds.

Currently the Maryland Forest Service is eligible to receive up to \$200,000 in transfer tax during the sale of properties that are 100% forested. This funding is used to offset the costs of assisting landowners with managing their forested lands.

Thank you for allowing the Maryland Department of Natural Resource to provide this information regarding HB 1146.

Respectfully submitted,
James W. McKitrick
Director, Legislative and Constituent Services

Contact: James W. McKitrick, Director, Legislative and Constituent Services
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