

JASON C. GALLION  
Legislative District 35  
Harford and Cecil Counties

Education, Health, and  
Environmental Affairs Committee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chair and Members

Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Re: SB 673 – Department of Agriculture – Urban Agriculture Grant Program

Position: Favorable

Chairman Pinsky and EHEA Committee Members:

SB 673 establishes an Urban Agriculture Grant Program within the Maryland Department of Agriculture and an Urban Agriculture Grant Fund to support the program. Maryland is home to numerous urban farms that do everything from beekeeping, growing flowers, and producing fresh food.

SB 673 will create a grant program through MDA that will distribute up to \$400,000 annually to promote and grow urban agriculture. This legislation will also help reduce health disparities in our state by creating fresh eating options and food stability in the regions of Maryland that need it most.

I respectfully ask for a favorable vote on SB 797.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jason Gallion".

Senator Jason Gallion

District 35 – Cecil & Harford Counties