

SB 51 Southern MD Delegation Letter of Support.pdf

Uploaded by: Bailey, Jack

Position: FAV

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JACK BAILEY
SENATOR, DISTRICT 29

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SENATOR, DISTRICT 28

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SENATOR, DISTRICT 27



THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
SOUTHERN MARYLAND DELEGATION

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DELEGATE, DISTRICT 29C

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MATTHEW MORGAN
DELEGATE, DISTRICT 29A

EDITH J. PATTERSON
DELEGATE, DISTRICT 28

ELIZABETH "SUSIE" PROCTOR
DELEGATE, DISTRICT 27A

TO: Finance Committee

FROM: Southern Maryland Delegation

DATE: February 8, 2021

RE: **SB 51/HB 639 - Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland - Property Management - Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center**

The Southern Maryland Delegation has voted in support of:

SB 51/HB 639 – Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland - Property Management - Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center

Bill Overview:

This bill is sponsored by **Senator Jack Bailey** for the purpose of authorizing the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland to act as a property manager of the Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center owned by and located within St. Mary's County.

Bill Outline:

1. This bill would make a technical change to the Tri-County Council's General Provisions that would allow SMADC the ability to act as the property manager for the Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center (RAC) that is being built in cooperation with St. Mary's County for the benefit of all Southern Maryland agricultural producers.
2. The reason for the change is that the current Tri-County Council statute places restrictions on the services that SMADC can offer at the RAC. A fully operational RAC with SMADC as the property manager is vital to continued growth of agriculture specifically, and the economic growth of Southern Maryland in general.

The Southern Maryland Delegation respectfully request that you support Southern Maryland agriculture with a favorably report of **SB 51/HB 639**.

SenatorBailey_FAV_SB51.pdf

Uploaded by: Bailey, Jack

Position: FAV

JACK BAILEY
Legislative District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Judicial Proceedings Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

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240-309-4238

February 23, 2021

Senate Bill 51 – Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland – Property Management – Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center

Dear Chair Kelley and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 51 – Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland – Property Management – Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center. This bill would authorize the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland to act as the property manager for the new Regional Agricultural Center which is currently being built in Charlotte Hall.

The Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center (RAC) will be a tremendous resource for the agricultural community in St. Mary's County and the four other counties throughout the region. When completed, the RAC will include a retail storefront, a commercial kitchen, fresh and frozen storage capability, facilities to cut and wrap meats, and space for educational and apprenticeship programs. The facility is an initiative of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), which is part of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland.

While St. Mary's County will own the facility, SMADC will be handling its day-to-day operations. In finalizing these arrangements, SMADC's counsel found that the law outlining the powers of the Tri-County Council did not grant them the authority to manage this property. St. Mary's County, the Tri-County Council, and SMADC all agree that SMADC should act as the property manager for the RAC. Senate Bill 51 will institute the technical change necessary to allow the Tri-County Council to act as property manager, which will in turn allow SMADC to operate the RAC, reflecting how all parties involved want to move forward and putting the statute in line with the memorandum of understanding for this project.

This bill has the support of the Southern Maryland Delegation. I respectfully request a favorable report on Senate Bill 51. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Bailey".

Senator Jack Bailey
District 29
Calvert and St. Mary's Counties

Support of SB 51 - Tri-County Council for Southern

Uploaded by: Ferguson, Colby

Position: FAV



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

3358 Davidsonville Road • Davidsonville, MD 21035 • (410) 922-3426

February 23, 2021

To: Senate Finance Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: Support of SB 51 - Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland - Property Management - Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony in support of SB 51, legislation that authorizes the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland to act as a property manager of the Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center (RAC) that is being built in cooperation with St. Mary's County for the benefit of all Southern Maryland agricultural producers.

This bill is a technical correction to allow the Tri-County Council and SMADC to partner with St. Mary's County on this valuable project and allow SMADC to manage the property.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS SB 51.

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

Position Statement SB51 HB639.pdf

Uploaded by: Watson-Hampton, Shelby

Position: FAV



POSITION STATEMENT
**HB639/SB51 - Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland –
Property Management – Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center**
February 23, 2021

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission (SMADC), a division of the Tri-County Council of Southern Maryland (TCCSMD) is asking for full support for HB639/SB51 - Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland – Property Management – Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center, entered by Senator Bailey and Delegate Davis. The Bill requests a minor change in the TCCSMD General Provisions that would allow SMADC, as their agricultural division, the ability to act as Property Managers for the Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center (RAC) that is being built in cooperation with St. Mary’s County, and that will serve all five Southern Maryland counties and their agricultural producers.

The proposed change newly defines the term of “Property Management” to be the “entity responsible for the management and maintenance of real property, including, but not limited to, finding tenants, collecting rent, paying expenses and applicable taxes, maintaining utilities and systems, and otherwise doing what is necessary to manage and operate real property.” The Bill also narrowly defines the scope of this work as being at “the Southern Maryland Regional Agricultural Center, which is owned and located within St. Mary’s County.” The reason for the change is that current TCC legislation places restrictions on the services that SMADC can offer at the RAC. A fully functional RAC capable of adding value to Southern Maryland agricultural and livestock products, aggregate and distribute those products, and provide instructional and regulatory-advice services has long been needed and a goal of Southern Maryland farmers. Considering the wealth of knowledge that SMADC brings to this project, it has always been the intention that St. Mary’s County will own the RAC and SMADC will provide the expertise and personnel to run and manage the RAC for the benefit of the Region. To that end, SMADC must secure this amendment to the TCC General Provisions in order to be able to provide these services.

The following services will be offered at the RAC with SMADC’s management:

A Regional Butcher Shop/Cut and Wrap Facility, a Finer Meats Processing Facility, creation of a Southern Maryland Meats Charcuterie Brand, Apprenticeship Programs and Job Training, a Meat Locker and Cold Storage Facility, a Warehouse and Distribution Site, a Commercial Kitchen, an Instructional Kitchen Classroom, and a product Storage Facility. It is forecast that the RAC will supply full-time employment for 17 Southern Maryland residents.

A fully operational RAC, with SMADC’s expertise as programs and property manager, is vital to the continued growth of the agricultural economy in Southern Maryland. We ask that you solidly support this Bill for Southern Maryland agriculture.

The Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission
is a division of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland
P.O. Box 745 Hughesville, MD 20637
Phone - 240-528-8850 ~ Email – info@smadc.com

