



Society for Biodiversity Preservation

Conservation Custodians

Washington, DC

<https://preservebio.org/>

On behalf of the Society for Biodiversity Preservation (SBP) and our hundreds of supporters, we offer the following comments on **Maryland's Bill HB1359 -Establishing a Technology and Science Advisory Commission** to study and make recommendations on technology and science to the State Governor and the General Assembly.

The Society for Biodiversity Preservation is a Washington, DC- based non-profit organization (under IRC Sec. 501(c)(3)) founded by scientists and educators to protect Earth's natural capital through local biodiversity improvement projects and educational programs. We ensure citizen action and partnership with diverse stakeholders to reclaim and preserve local habitats and native ecosystems. To date we have awarded several financial grants to support science-based habitat improvement projects in Montgomery and PG Counties in Maryland as well as in DC. SBP strongly advocates for science-based policies and technologies to promote the strategic and sustainable use of Earth's natural resources.

Modern Technology provides us with tools to improve human health and welfare, to address issues that impact human survival, and to protect our built and natural environments. We rely on science to develop such technologies: to manufacture medicines, including the Covid-19 vaccines, to grow food to feed increasing populations, to resolve climate crisis, biodiversity crisis, and other issues facing us today. Science underlies all aspects of modern life its importance cannot be overemphasized.

Establishing a Technology and Science Advisory Commission is both essential and urgently needed to ensure that current science & best available technologies inform all aspects of decision making at all levels of the government. Through its annual reports, the Commission could guide decision making that is temporally efficient, financially optimal, and equitable to all. With the help of the Commission, Maryland can become the leader in the region for the delivery of huge substantial economic benefits at no additional cost.

We strongly support the Bill HB1359 to Establish a Technology and Science Advisory Commission.

Thank you for your serious consideration of these comments.

Gurram Gopal

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