

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

Judicial Proceedings Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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March 16, 2022

Senate Bill 913 – Board of Public Works – Sotterley Plantation – Operating Grant

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to introduce Senate Bill 913 – Board of Public Works – Sotterley Plantation – Operating Grant. This bill would provide an operating grant of \$500,000 to Historic Sotterley, which is located in St. Mary's County, in each of the next three fiscal years.

As many of you know, I often talk about the rich history located in District 29. As a UNESCO Site of Memory and a National Historic Landmark, Sotterley is a very important part of that history. Speaking from personal experience having attended a number of programs held at Sotterley, I know that they are dedicated to preserving our history and telling the full story of St. Mary's County and of Maryland, and, in turn, of our country. I also know that there are members of this Committee who have visited Sotterley to learn more about their preservation efforts. As one example of how they fulfill their mission and work to tell this story is through working with the Maryland State Department of Education to provide educational programs for our State's students.

The General Assembly has recognized and supported Historic Sotterley's important work with capital grants in 2016 and 2020. However, this additional support is necessary because Sotterley does not have an endowment and operates only on earned income. These funds would help Historic Sotterley maintain and grow their educational mission.

This bill sunsets on June 30, 2026. I am submitting an amendment with this bill that corrects references to Historic Sotterley in the bill. I respectfully request a favorable report with amendments on Senate Bill 913. 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