



House Bill 147 (Delegate Charkoudian)

Maryland Farms and Families Fund, Maryland Food and Agricultural Resiliency Mechanism Grant Program, and Maryland Farm-to-School Meal Grant Pilot Program – Alterations and Establishment

Position: Favorable

January 17, 2022

On behalf of Fair Farms Maryland (a Waterkeepers Chesapeake program), I support HB 147 with amendments. The three programs in this bill will help create a more resilient food system in Maryland by increasing food access for consumers and supporting family farms in Maryland and possibly neighboring states. Thank you to Delegate Charkoudian, her staff, and the stakeholders who drafted this bill for their leadership on these issues. However, I believe that there are opportunities to further the impact of these programs on food resiliency and I look forward to communicating with the Delegate's office on potential areas for improvement.

Sincerely,

Humon Heidarian
Fair Farms Campaign Manager
Waterkeepers Chesapeake