

Testimony for SB 282--Maryland Forestry Education Fund
Hearing Date Feb. 8 at 1:00

Co-sponsors: [King](#), [Carozza](#), [Corderman](#), [Elfreth](#), [Gile](#), [Guzzone](#), [Klausmeier](#), [Kramer](#), [McKay](#), and [Salling](#)

Committee: Budget and Taxation

Person Submitting: Maureen Fine 2509 Knighthill Lane, Bowie, MD 20715

Dear Sen. King and Committee members,

I'm writing in support of SB282. Our forests help in the fight against Climate Change, keep our air and water clean, protect the Chesapeake Bay, support human health and biodiversity, and perform countless other ecosystem services. To be effective in improving and increasing our forest cover here in Maryland, we must support more education and outreach to the private landowners who control **70%** of our forestlands, in addition to increasing our public land protection efforts!

SB282 would create a Maryland Forest Education Fund that would provide education and resources to Maryland's forest landowners (who are responsible for 70% of our forestlands), and to local governments for specific purposes. These purposes might include how to keep a forest healthy and thriving; how to foster sustainability using science based best practices; promoting climate mitigation and resilience; forest conservation; urban forestry, and other purposes listed in the bill.

Please deliver a FAVORABLE report on SB282.

Thank you,
Maureen Fine
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