



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

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

March 7, 2023

To: Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: **Support of SB 866 - Special Vehicle Registration Plates - Chesapeake Bay Trust and Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation - Appropriation**

On behalf of our member families, I submit this written testimony in support of SB 866. This bill requires the Governor to include in the annual budget bill beginning in fiscal year 2025 an appropriation for the Chesapeake Bay Trust and Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc. that is calculated based on the amount of revenue lost if/when special vehicle registration plates are created.

Maryland Agriculture Education Foundation (MAEF) receives funding from the sale and registration of the Ag tags. The Chesapeake Bay Trust also receives funding from the Bay tag. Currently, these are the only two special vehicle registration plates. If there were to be more plates created, the fund source would go down because of the added type of plates. This bill seeks to make sure MAEF and CBT receive level funding if their revenue from the plate sales go down. Even though our policy opposes any new commemorative license plates, we see this solution being one that we can support if new plates were approved and created.

MDFB Policy: We support the Maryland Ag Tag, and we believe that all fees derived from sales should continue to be used to support MAEF.

We oppose increasing the number of commemorative license plates beyond the Maryland Ag Tag and Chesapeake Bay Tag.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS SB 866 AND REQUEST A FAVORABLE REPORT

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