



March 2, 2023

The Honorable Brian Feldman, Chairman
Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Re: Senate Bill 836 – Maryland Native Plants Program

Position: *Support*

Chairman Feldman & Committee Members:

I am writing on behalf of the Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts (MASCD) to express our support for Senate Bill 836 – Maryland Native Plants Program. This bill establishes the Maryland Native Plants Program and encourages retail garden centers and wholesale nurseries to promote the sale of native Maryland plants through coordination efforts with our local University of Maryland Extension offices.

The Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts, incorporated in 1956, promotes practical and effective soil, water, and natural resource related programs to all citizens through individual conservation districts on a voluntary basis through leadership, education, cooperation, and local direction. By supporting this bill, MASCD continues their legacy of supporting statewide conservation efforts.

We respectfully request a favorable report of Senate Bill 836, which shows your dedicated support to the entire State of Maryland and the agricultural community. Thank you for your kind consideration and attention to this legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Nelson, Executive Director
Maryland Association of Soil Conservation Districts