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

February 8, 2023

To: House Economic Matters Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: <u>Support of HB 293 - Corporations and Associations – Annual Report Filing Fees – Electronic Filing Exemption</u>

On behalf of our Farm Bureau member families in Maryland, I submit this written testimony in support of HB 293. Legislation that exempts several business entities (including farms) from paying the filing fee required with the submission of an annual report to the State Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) if the annual report is filed electronically.

Having the ability to remove a \$100 or \$300 annual fee just to electronically submit paperwork, not only keeps farmers hard earned money in their pocket, but also makes for a more efficient filing process for the farmer and the state. This is a win, win for the farmer and the state.

MDFB Policy:

We urge the reduction of government agency bureaucracy and duplication to reduce costs, fees, and frustration of the public.

We oppose the imposition of new or increased user fees, licenses and permits as general fund enhancements.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS HB293 & REQUESTS A FAVORABLE REPORT

Colby Ferguson

Director of Government Relations

For more information contact Colby Ferguson at (240) 578-0396