



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

*Environmental Protection and Restoration
Environmental Education*

House Bill 971

Department of the Environment – Green Roof Grant Program

Date: March 3, 2023	Position: Support
To: House Environment and Transportation Committee	From: Doug Myers, Maryland Senior Scientist

Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) **SUPPORTS** HB 971 which establishes a grant program for up to \$75,000 to assist the building of green roofs on commercial buildings.

Green Roofs are a well-established practice in low impact development designed to reduce and clean runoff that is generated by impervious rooftops. As such, it is far more effective in treating both the flow and contaminants of runoff because it does so at the source of pollution rather than downstream. Green roofs help to cool the building and any runoff that would be generated in excess of what the plants and soil of the green roof can absorb. Green roofs are especially effective if they are retrofits of existing impervious rooftops because they would reduce the total volume of runoff to that local watershed.

CBF urges the Committee's FAVORABLE report on HB 971.

For more information, please contact Matt Stegman, Maryland Staff Attorney, at mstegman@cbf.org.

Maryland Office • Philip Merrill Environmental Center • 6 Herndon Avenue • Annapolis • Maryland • 21403

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) is a non-profit environmental education and advocacy organization dedicated to the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay. With over 300,000 members and e-subscribers, including over 109,000 in Maryland alone, CBF works to educate the public and to protect the interest of the Chesapeake and its resources.