



Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

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

March 3, 2023

To: House Environment & Transportation Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

Re: **Support of HB 954 - Natural Resources - Hunting - Tundra Swans**

On behalf of our Farm Bureau member families, I submit this written testimony in support of HB 954, legislation that requires the Department of Natural Resources to establish an annual tundra swan hunting season if authorized by federal law. It requires the Department to request that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service authorize an annual tundra swan hunting season in the State and provide the Department and requires the Department to distribute tundra swan permits annually using a lottery-based system.

Game birds and waterfowl cause significant crop damage especially on the Eastern Shore. The Tundra swan is one of these waterfowl that does significant damage to row crops in the spring. Having the ability to control the population in Maryland will assist with lessening the crop damage they cause.

MDFB Policy: In cooperation with State Game Management efforts, we support the privileges of citizens to continue to hunt, trap, and fish in accordance with State Game Management regulations.

MARYLAND FARM BUREAU SUPPORTS HB 954 & REQUESTS 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