



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION

*Environmental Protection and Restoration
Environmental Education*

House Bill 1006

State Highway Administration – Vegetation Management – Pollinator Habitat Plan

Date: March 23, 2023
To: Finance Committee

Position: **Support**
From: Doug Myers,
Maryland Senior Scientist

Chesapeake Bay Foundation (CBF) **SUPPORTS** HB 1006 which directs the State Highway Administration to develop a pollinator habitat plan for state road rights of way.

Native plants that support pollinators protect the important functions of biodiversity and food production. One third of the plants humans eat require pollinators to produce the edible portion of the plants. Habitat destruction for native pollinators endangers our food supply. There is a great opportunity for land currently managed as lawns along state rights of way to instead support native pollinators. By doing so, the mowing frequency can be significantly reduced saving time, money, greenhouse gases and polluted runoff from these lands as they are currently managed.

CBF urges the Committee's FAVORABLE report on HB 1006.

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

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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.