



Maryland Farm Bureau

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February 27, 2024

To: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

From: Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

RE: Support of SB745 Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine – Funding

On behalf of the member families of the Maryland Farm Bureau, I submit this written testimony in support of SB745. This bill would increase the number of Maryland residents from 30 to 42 in the student body of the Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, contingent on certain agreements.

Veterinary practices across the state, especially large animal, are slowly decreasing and being harder to find. Maryland farmers have a need for large animal vets to support their operations. There is a string of students that head out of state for their education, with many of them not finding their way back home. By increasing the number of Maryland students in the state partnered veterinarian program, and the addition of a Veterinary program at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, there is an opportunity to keep more of these students local and coming back to work in Maryland after their education has been completed.

Maryland Farm Bureau Supports SB745

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Hough', with a horizontal line above it.

Tyler Hough

Director of Government Relations

Please contact Tyler Hough, (443) 878-4045 with any questions