



Maryland Grain Producers Association  
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Senate Bill 736 - Natural Resources - Wildlife Damage Prevention and Reimbursement Fund - Establishment

Committee: Education, Energy and the Environment

MGPA Position: SUPPORT

The Maryland Grain Producers Association (MGPA) serves as the voice of grain farmers growing corn, wheat, barley and sorghum across the state. MGPA supports Senate Bill 736 which would establish the Wildlife Damage Prevention and Reimbursement Fund.

Previous estimated from the National Agricultural Statistics Service estimates that farmers experience over \$10 million in crop damage annually with 77% of that being attributed to deer. MGPA members experience would say that number is likely much higher. Maryland's deer population was estimated to be just over 200,000 white-tailed deer and 10,000 sika deer in 2022. The density of deer to suitable habitat in Maryland is high and therefore causes conflict with not only farmers and their crops but also vehicles and homeowners.

This fund would not only provide reimbursement for damage under certain circumstances but also grants for practices that seek to avoid crop damage from wildlife.

MGPA respectfully requests your favorable report on Senate Bill 637.