

February 19, 2025

Maryland House Environment and Transportation Committee  
Annapolis, MD

**Testimony of Grazy Days Family Farm in Support of HB 834**

Dear Chair Korman, Vice Chair Boyce and Members of the Committee,

I am writing on behalf of Grazy Days Family Farm, a mother-and-daughter regenerative eco-farm in Frederick County, Maryland. As farmers dedicated to ethical and sustainable animal husbandry, we strongly support HB 834, which ensures that egg-laying hens have the ability to move freely and express natural behaviors.

At Grazy Days Family Farm, we raise pasture-raised eggs and 100% grass-fed lamb using regenerative practices that prioritize both animal welfare and environmental sustainability. We have witnessed firsthand the profound difference that proper animal movement makes—not only in the health and well-being of the animals but also in the quality of the food they produce.

Hens that are allowed to roam are visibly healthier, stronger, and happier since they get to engage in their natural behaviors. Conversely, restricting movement of birds creates stress, weakens immune systems, and leads to unnecessary suffering. We have seen the difference, and we know that allowing animals to move is the right thing to do.

By passing HB 834, Maryland has the opportunity to affirm that humane, responsible farming practices are not only possible but necessary. We urge you to support this bill and stand with farmers who prioritize the welfare of their animals and the sustainability of our agricultural systems.

Thank you,

Leah Mack  
Grazy Days Family Farm  
Frederick County, Maryland