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Legislative District 36

Caroline, Cecil, Kent, and
Queen Anne's Counties

Environment and Transportation Committee

Subcommittees
Motor Vehicle and Transportation

Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Open Space

Local Government and Bicounty Agencies

Joint Committee on Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review



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## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

## HB894-Endangered and Threatened Species-Incidental Taking -Bats

Chairman, Korman, Vice Chair Boyce and members of the Environment and Transportation committee:

Today I am here to present HB894 which is legislation for the purpose of authorizing the Secretary of Natural Resources to issue an incidental taking permit for certain species of bats if an applicant submits a conservation plan.

Currently Maryland's law authorizes conservation plans and incidental take permits for only two species, Delmarva Fox Squirrels and Tiger Beetles. This legislation is straight forward. It adds Northern Lond-eared Bat (NLEB), Tricolor Bat (TCB) and the Indianna Bat as other species for which HCP's can be developed and an incidental take permit. Without such a plan and permit, "taking" one of these three bat species would be prohibited and unlawful.

I ask for a favorable vote on HB894