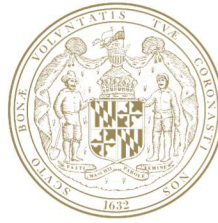


JEFFERSON L. GHRIST
Co-CHAIR

NATALIE ZIEGLER
Co-CHAIR



H. KEVIN ANDERSON
TERRY BAKER
KEVIN B. HORNBERGER
ANDRE V. JOHNSON, JR.
STEVE JOHNSON
SHEREE SAMPLE-HUGHES

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
HOUSE RURAL CAUCUS

March 31, 2026

The Honorable Guy Guzzone
Chair, Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Honorable Members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee:

On behalf of the Rural Caucus, we are writing to express our support for **HB 1554 Sales and Use Tax - Electricity for Agriculture Purposes - Study and Report.**

This bill requires the Comptroller, with consultation from the Public Service Commission and PJM, to study exempting electricity used for agricultural activities such as irrigation, livestock, and crop production from Maryland's sales and use tax and report the fiscal impact to the General Assembly. For rural communities, this study could help facilitate the reduction of operational costs for farmers, helping keep farms financially viable and stabilizing local agricultural economies.

For these reasons, the Rural Caucus supports HB 1554 and requests a favorable report.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jefferson L. Ghrist".

Delegate Jefferson L. Ghrist
Co-Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Natalie Ziegler".

Delegate Natalie Ziegler
Co-Chair