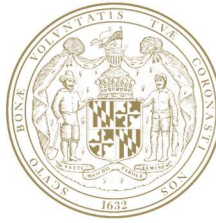


JEFFERSON L. GHRIST
Co-CHAIR

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 Brian J. Feldman
Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and Honorable Members of the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

On behalf of the Rural Caucus, we are writing to express our support for **HB 972, Maryland Fair and Agricultural Education Promise Fund - Establishment (Charles J. Otto Agricultural Education Promise Act)**.

This bill would provide critical funding for the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation and Maryland FFA Association, helping to inspire a new generation of farmers. For these reasons, the Rural Caucus supports HB 972 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