



## Maryland Farm Bureau

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April 2, 2026

**To:** House Environment and Transportation Committee

**From:** Maryland Farm Bureau, Inc.

**RE: IN SUPPORT OF – Senate Bill 270 Public Service Commission – Full Costs and Benefits Analysis of Sources of Electricity Generation**

On behalf of the 7,000 farm families of the Maryland Farm Bureau, we respectfully request a FAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 270. Maryland agriculture operates on narrow margins and depends on reliable, affordable electricity. Irrigation, poultry house ventilation, dairy cooling, grain drying, and on-farm processing run around the clock. Even modest increases in per-kilowatt-hour rates or new demand charges directly impact farm profitability and regional competitiveness.

SB 270 aligns directly with Maryland Farm Bureau policy supporting energy reliability, rate affordability, transparency in utility ratemaking, and careful evaluation of policies that affect ratepayers. The bill directs the Public Service Commission to conduct a comprehensive, system-wide cost and benefit analysis of competing generation sources, including the full cost of reliability, transmission, backup capacity, and storage. That disciplined approach reflects our policy position that energy decisions must account for total system impacts and protect consumers, including agricultural producers.

By promoting transparency, accountability, and sound fiscal analysis, SB 270 strengthens Maryland's long-term energy planning. A clear understanding of full system costs will help ensure a balanced generation portfolio that maintains reliability, supports economic growth, and protects ratepayers. That certainty benefits farmers, rural communities, and the broader Maryland economy alike.

For these reasons, the Maryland Farm Bureau respectfully requests a FAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 270.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tyler Hough', with a horizontal line above it.

Tyler Hough  
Director of Government Relations

*Please contact Tyler Hough, [though@marylandfb.org](mailto:though@marylandfb.org), with any questions*