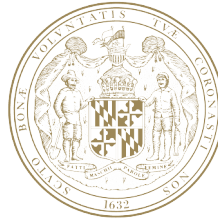


JEFFERSON L. GHRIST
Co-CHAIR

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

February 23, 2026

The Honorable Marc Korman
Chair, Environment & Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and Honorable Members of the Environment and Transportation 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 (Maryland Fair and Agricultural Education Promise Act)**.

This bill would provide a reliable source of funding for agricultural fairs, which are critical sources of tourist dollars and invaluable educational opportunities for children in 4H and agricultural programs. The bill also would directly help fund agricultural education and help 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