



**Affiliate of The Maryland Association of Counties, Inc.**

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February 24, 2026

TO: Members of the Finance Committee  
FROM: Maryland Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors  
RE: **SB 546 - Public Health - Food and Milk Product Labeling - Requirements**

The Maryland Conference of Local Environmental Health Directors (Conference) **OPPOSE** SB 546 in their capacities as the State's twenty-four Environmental Health Directors responsible for carrying out activities covered by the delegated authorities from Maryland Department of Health (MDH).

The Conference believes this proposed legislation would create an unnecessary burden on small Maryland businesses and conflicts with existing Federal labeling laws.

Currently, Federal labeling laws permit the use of the term "sell-by" for packaged foods. SB 546 would eliminate this terminology after July 1, 2027. Furthermore, the bill would impose a significant financial burden on small businesses, requiring them to conduct laboratory testing to establish the date that ensures the product is safe for consumption.

Accordingly, the Conference requests the Committee give SB 546 an **UNFAVORABLE** report.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views on this matter. If you have further questions concerning this written testimony, please contact:

For more information:  
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