

HB0217 - SUPPORT

From:

The Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) Fund, Invasive Vines Program Supporters

HB0217 - General Provisions - Commemorative Month - Maryland Native Plant Month

March 13, 2026

Dear Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and Members of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee,

On behalf of The Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) Action Fund and its Invasive Vines Program, **we urge a favorable report on HB0217/SB0229 to support the commemoration of Maryland Native Plant Month.**

CCAN's Invasive Vines Program works with hundreds of volunteers from all over Maryland who have spent hundreds of hours removing invasive plants on both public and private land. The essential follow-up to this important work is to plant native plants in their place. Native plants help protect the Chesapeake Bay by reducing pollution and stormwater run-off, improve agricultural yields with higher crop pollination, and help protect our wildlife, including pollinators.

For three years, Governor Moore has declared the month of May to be Native Plant Month in Maryland. Codifying this commemoration into law will increase public awareness of the importance of native plants while also supporting nurseries and related businesses in our state. Plants don't grow overnight. Nurseries need time to grow plants and bring them to market; having a regularly scheduled Native Plant Month will give nurseries time to prepare to leverage this opportunity at no cost to Maryland taxpayers.

Please help the Chesapeake Bay, local agriculture, wildlife, and pollinators, by supporting Maryland Native Plant Month.

Thank you,

Supporters of The Chesapeake Climate Action Network (CCAN) Action Fund

Signed:

1. Alexandra Milentey, Riverdale Park, MD 20737
2. Lucy Duff, Lanham, MD 20706
3. Sashaum Deprez, Hyattsville, MD 20783
4. Gail Davidson, Hyattsville, MD 20784

5. Ramon Tasat, Silver Spring, MD 20910
6. Braden Fink, Easton, MD 21601
7. Jodi Beder, Mount Rainier, MD 20712
8. Marissa Smith, Rockville, MD 20852
9. Rosie Weaver, Greenbelt, MD 20770
10. Brian Gugerty, Arnold, MD 21012
11. Susan Slotnick, Hyattsville MD 290781
12. Dustin Branch, Baltimore, MD 21201
13. Louis Avenilla, Accokeek, MD 20607
14. Mike Guerrieri, Riverdale, MD 20737
15. Dorothy Davidson, Hyattsville, MD 20784
16. Lora Katz, Riverdale, MD 20737
17. Sarah Wayland, Riverdale Park, MD 20737
18. Janet Nackoney, Hyattsville, MD 20781
19. Demian Rybock, Hyattsville, MD 20781
20. Mary Kennedy, Hyattsville MD 20781
21. Whitney Peters, Hyattsville, MD 20781
22. Jackie Marks, Hyattsville, MD 20781
23. Laura Pillsbury, Hyattsville, MD 20781
24. Lucas Wyant, Hyattsville, MD 20781
25. Amy Schachtner-Appel, Hyattsville, MD 20781
26. Sarah Batto, Riverdale, MD 20737
27. Sarah Rothman, Riverdale, MD 20737
28. Claudia Vondrasek, Silver Spring, MD 20901