

APRIL ROSE
Legislative District 5
Carroll and Fredrick Counties

ASSISTANT MINORITY LEADER

Economic Matters Committee

Subcommittees

Banking, Consumer Protection,
and Commercial Law

Property and Casualty Insurance

Unemployment Insurance

Joint Committee on Legislative Ethics



The Maryland House of Delegates
6 Bladen Street, Room 213
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3070
800-492-7122 Ext. 3070
April.Rose@house.maryland.gov

THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

March 3, 2026

Support House Bill 1023

Lab-Grown Meat - Prohibition
Health Committee

Chair Bagnall, Vice Chair Cullison and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to present HB 1023 Lab-Grown Meat – Prohibition.

This bill, if passed, will prohibit selling, offering to sell, distribute or manufacture of lab-grown meat for human consumption. Violators will be subject to civil penalties up to \$5,000 as determined in District Court.

There is no fiscal impact.

What is “lab-grown meat?” It is meat or a meat product that contains certain animal tissue cultured outside an actual animal such as stem cells.

This product is already illegal in Italy and Hungary. France and several other European Union countries are skeptical of the use of this process.

Florida, Alabama, Texas and Montana banned the product and process with penalties such as this bill. South Dakota banned public funds from studying this process. Colorado, Iowa, Mississippi and Utah have strict labeling guidelines. Illinois and North Dakota passed a study on this subject.

Studies from NIH’s National Center for Biotechnology and Information Studies, along with a study from the Frontiers in Nutrition Group, determined the following regarding nutritional value of lab-grown meat:

1. There is a large cost to developing lab-grown meat into a product that will resemble meat.
2. Colorants, flavorings and nutrients missing from lab-grown meat (such as taurine, B-12) are missing and must be added to remedy the nutritional deficits.

Studies as far back as 2012, through current work, thus far have concluded that there is no reason to believe lab-grown meat is more beneficial than natural, animal direct meat.

I would like to thank both Collin Rolfes from my staff, along with Future Farmers of America Student Johnna Peregoy for their research and assistance with this bill.

I will now turn this presentation over to Collin to share his research.

Thank you for your time. I respectfully request a favorable report.

Respectfully,



Del. April Rose
District 5
Carroll and Frederick Counties