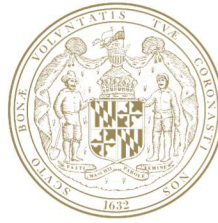


JEFFERSON L. GHRIST
Co-CHAIR

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

March 5, 2026

The Honorable Jheanelle K. Wilkins
Chair, Ways & Means Committee
131 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Chair Wilkins, Vice Chair Feldmark, and Honorable Members of the Ways and Means Committee:

On behalf of the Rural Caucus, we are writing to express our support for **HB909 Sales and Use Tax – Cut Flowers – Exemption.**

This bill would exempt cut flowers sold by a farmer from the sales and use tax, bringing cut flowers in line with how the state sales and use tax already treats vegetables and other agriculture products sold directly by a farmer at a farm stand or farmer's market. This would provide an economic boost to farms which are struggling to stay in business, as well as an incentive for consumers to buy directly from farmers and for farmers to diversify their crops and business operations.

For these reasons, the Rural Caucus supports HB909 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