



Maryland Food System Resiliency Council

Communications and Coordination Subcommittee

Minutes

Mar 14, 2022 1:00pm - 1:30pm

- I. Welcome - Michael J. Wilson and Sydney Daigle, Subcommittee Co-Chairs
- II. Bills for Review - Vanessa Calaban

a. New This Week

- i. [SB393](#) - Economic Development - Project Restore Program
Establishing the Project Restore Program within the Department of Housing and Community Development to provide financial incentives for small businesses and commercial developers to revitalize certain vacant retail and commercial space; authorizing the award of certain grants to certain businesses and developers under certain circumstances; establishing the Project Restore Fund as a special, nonlapsing fund in the Department; requiring interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the Fund; etc.

Amendment added during voting session to prioritize incentives for businesses and developers who intend to offer fresh fruits and vegetables within USDA-specified food deserts.

Discussion:

1. Michael J - there are several questions that need to be addressed, including: is this for new or existing enterprises? Are we encouraging new enterprises over ones that already exist in the community? How do we measure fresh fruit and vegetable "availability"? Would this include nonprofit food pantries or food banks, or is reserved for for-profit businesses? Given the trends associated with the pandemic and the growth of online grocers, can the vendor be located outside the community and shipping products in?
2. Anne Wallerstedt clarified - seems that it would only apply to new businesses, not existing; doesn't know much more than Vanessa does



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3. Steve McHenry - given the fact this is a new issue to us, we should monitor the bill and see what the Senate does (what actions do they take, how do they vote, etc.)
 4. Vanessa - bill has a lot of cosponsors, including the Senate President, so it will likely move
- b. **Updates:**
- i. [SB0971](#) - Concentration of Poverty School Grant Program - School Lunch. *Rereferred to Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; **hearing scheduled for 3/15 at 1pm**. Also referred to Budget and Taxation; no hearing scheduled yet. (Support; crossfile HB857)*
 1. Michael J wrote testimony on behalf of the FSRC for the House hearing; will resubmit for Senate hearing.
 - ii. [SB0942](#) - Agriculture - Urban Agriculture Water and Power Infrastructure Grant Program and Fund - Establishment. *Assigned to Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; **hearing scheduled for 3/15 at 1pm**. Also referred to Budget and Taxation; no hearing scheduled yet. (Support; crossfile HB855)*
 1. Steve McHenry wrote testimony on behalf of the FSRC for the House hearing; will resubmit for Senate hearing.
 - iii. [SB0121/HB0147](#) - Maryland Farms and Families Fund, Maryland Food and Agricultural Resiliency Mechanism Grant Program, and Maryland Farm-to-School Meal Grant Pilot Program – Alterations and Establishment - **Voted FAVORABLE in EHE, 3/11.**
 1. Steve McHenry provided an update from the EHE hearing Friday:
 - a. Senate FARM bill was voted out of committee with full funding
 - i. This is good news after an unexpected setback in the House crossfile (apparently the House Speaker's office is trying to get a hold on funding requests, so they have scaled back funding amounts for bills with large fiscal notes - HB0147 was reduced from the full \$2 million to \$500k)
 2. Full bill passed with an amended amendment in the farm-to-school grant program
 - a. We haven't seen the final amendment text yet, but it clarifies language on when schools receiving grants for purchasing



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local food would actually have the money in-hand (before the school year begins or after meals have been served)

- iv. [HB0456 \(SB0957\)](#) - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - State Supplement. *Referred to Senate Finance Committee; no hearing date set.*
- v. [HB0540 \(SB0437\)](#) - Agriculture - University of Maryland Extension - Urban Farmer Assistance. *Referred to Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; no hearing date set.*
- vi. [HB0680](#) - Baltimore County - Property Tax Credit - Supermarkets. *Reported favorably with amendments.*
- vii. [SB0124 \(HB0150\)](#) - Public Schools – Grant Program to Reduce and Compost School Waste. *Reported favorably with amendments.*



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2. Hearing Schedule Week of 3/14 - 3/18

Bill# (Crossfile)	Title	Sponsor(s)	Hearing Schedule	Notes
Support				
HB0857 (SB0971)	Education - Concentration of Poverty School Grant Program - School Lunch	Delegate Reznik	Ways and Means 3/3, 13:00 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/15/22 at 13:00	Michael J. has written testimony for the House file, will submit for Senate hearing
HB0855 (SB0942)	Agriculture - Urban Agriculture Water and Power Infrastructure Grant Program and Fund - Establishment	Delegate Boyce Senators Griffith and Hayes	<i>House</i> Environment and Transportation 2/25/2022 - 11:00 AM <i>Senate</i> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/15/22 at 13:00	Steve has written testimony for the House file, will submit for Senate hearing



3. Full Legislative Tracking List - 2022 Session

NO POSITION

Bill/ Chapter (Cross/ Chapter)	Title	Sponsor	Committees & Hearings	Notes
SB0393 (HB0414)	Economic Development - Project Restore Program and Fund	Senators Bailey, Carozza, Cassilly, Corderman, Eckardt, Edwards, Elfreth, Gallion, Hershey, Hester, Hough, Jennings, Ready, Salling, Simonaire, and West Delegates Anderton, Boteler, Buckel, Chisholm, Griffith,	<i>Senate</i> Education, Health, & Environmental Affairs - 2/22 <i>House</i> Ways & Means - 2/23	New this week Sydney will gather more info



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		Hartman, Hornberger, Howard, Jacobs, Kipke, Krebs, Long, McComas, McKay, Metzgar, Morgan, Munoz, Novotny, Otto, Reilly, Saab, Szeliga, Thiam, and Wivell		
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SUPPORT

Bill/ Chapter (Cross/ Chapter)	Title	Sponsor	Committees & Hearings	Notes
HB0147 (SB0121)	Maryland Farms and Families Fund, Maryland Food and Agricultural Resiliency Mechanism Grant Program, and Maryland Farm-to-School	Delegate Charkoudian Senator Hester	<i>House</i> Environment and Transportation 1/19/2022 - 1:00 PM Ways and Means	Heather testified on HB147 Michael J. testified on SB121



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	Meal Grant Pilot Program – Alterations and Establishment		<i>Senate</i> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 1/25/2022 - 1:30 PM	
HB0150 (SB0124)	Public Schools - Grant Program to Reduce and Compost School Waste	Delegate Charkoudian Senator Hettleman	<i>House</i> Ways and Means 1/27/2022 - 1:00 PM <i>Senate</i> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 1/19/2022 - 1:00 PM	Heather submitted written testimony on 1/25 for the House hearing.
SB0263 (HB0661)	Health - Food Service Facilities - Beverage Options With Children's Meals	Senator Beidle Delegates Fennell and D. Barnes	<i>Senate</i> Finance 2/03/2022 - 1:00 PM <i>House</i> Economic Matters 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM	Testimony submitted for Senate and House.
HB0178	Public Health – Cottage Food Businesses – Annual Revenues	Delegate Chang	Health and Government Operations	Dr. Lansing has volunteered to develop testimony for review in



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			1/19/2022 - 2:50 PM	case the bill successfully passes the House.
HB0184 (SB0229)	Environment - On-Farm Composting Facilities - Permit Exemption	Delegate Shetty Senator Gallion	<i>House</i> Environment and Transportation 2/02/2022 - 1:00 PM <i>Senate</i> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 1/25/2022 - 1:30 PM	Testimony submitted for the House.
HB0456	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - State Supplement	Delegate Valentino-Smith	Appropriations 2/08/2022 - 1:00 PM	Subcommittee will draft testimony for Senate hearing, if applicable.
SB0630 (HB0706)	Maryland Department of Emergency Management - Office of Resilience	Senator Hester et al. Delegates Sample-Hughes and Watson	<i>House</i> Environment and Transportation 2/18/2022 - 11:00 AM <i>Senate</i> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/24/2022 - 1:00PM	Support with language drawing attention to the role of the FSRC



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HB0855 (SB0942)	Agriculture - Urban Agriculture Water and Power Infrastructure Grant Program and Fund - Establishment	Delegate Boyce Senators Griffith and Hayes	<i>House</i> Environment and Transportation 2/25/2022 - 11:00 AM <i>Senate</i> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/15/22 at 13:00	Steve will write testimony
HB0857 (SB0971)	Education - Concentration of Poverty School Grant Program - School Lunch	Delegate Reznik	Ways and Means 3/3, 13:00 <i>Senate</i> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/15/22 at 13:00	Michael J. will write testimony
HB1027 (SB0921)	Food Supplement Benefits - Students - Eligibility (SNAP for Students)	Delegate Solomon	Appropriations 3/10/22 - 1:00 PM	
SB0437 (HB0540)	Agriculture - University of Maryland Extension - Urban Farmer Assistance	Senator McCray	<i>Senate</i> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Dr. Lansing is writing testimony.



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			3/9/22 at 1:00pm House Appropriations 2/22/22 at 1:00 p.m.	
HB1352	Health and Wellness Standards – Correctional Facilities	Delegate Hill	Health and Government Operations 3/09/2022 - 1:30 PM Judiciary No hearing date yet	Chloe W. drafted and Heather submitted testimony.

SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS

Bill/ Chapter (Cross/ Chapter)	Title	Sponsor	Committees & Hearings	Notes
SB0039	Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Returning to State	Senator Cassilly	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 1/25/2022 - 1:30 PM	E&P strongly supports this bill. Some amendments were



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	Meat Processing Inspection (Farms Buy Local Act)			discussed during the 1/25 C&C meeting.
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OPPOSE

None identified for opposition at this time.

MONITOR

Bill/Chapter (Cross/Chapter)	Title	Sponsor	Org Committees & Hearings	Notes
HB0100 (SB0014)	Sustainable Maryland Program Fund - Establishment	Delegate Solomon Senator Elfreth	<i>House</i> Appropriations 1/25/2022 - 1:00 PM <i>Senate</i> Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/9/2022 - 1:00pm	
HB0156	Local Governments – Urban Agricultural Incentive Zones – Authorization	Delegate Queen	Environment and Transportation 1/19/2022 - 1:00 PM	



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HB0179	Counties and State Legislative Districts - Food Environment Reports	Delegate Amprey	Environment and Transportation 1/25/2022 - 1:00 PM	
SB0378 (HB0646)	Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland - Funding for Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission	Senator Jackson Delegates Proctor and R. Jones	Budget and Taxation 2/9/22 - 1:00 PM Environment and Transportation 3/11/22 - 1:00 PM	<i>Monitor</i> Steve McHenry shared a flier from SMADC which was distributed to the group.
HB0680	Baltimore County - Property Tax Credit - Supermarkets.	Delegate Brooks, et al	Ways and Means 2/15/2022 - 1:00pm	
SB0362	Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Schools - Revisions	Senator Pinsky	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/16/2022 - 1:00 PM	More info needed
SB0552 (HB0695)	Environment - Climate Crisis Plan - Requirement (Better Together to Save Our Weather Act of 2022)	Senator Kramer Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo	<i>House</i> Environment and Transportation 2/18/2022 - 11:00 AM	Monitor



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			Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/24/2022 - 1:00 PM	
HB1163	Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Education - Requirements	Delegate Washington	Ways and Means 3/9/22 - 1:00 PM	
HB1216	Department of Agriculture - Urban Agriculture Grant Fund	Delegate Wells	Environment and Transportation 3/4/22 - 1:00 PM`	
HB1228 (SB0830)	Natural Resources – Oysters – Spat, Shells, and Substrate	Delegates Crosby, Clark, Boyce, Barve, and Stein Senators Elfreth, Bailey, Eckardt, Guzzone, and Hershey	Environment and Transportation 3/4/22 - 1:00 PM Education, Transportation, and Environment 3/1/22 - 1:00 PM	



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HB1163	Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Education - Requirements	Delegate Washington	Ways and Means 3/9/22 - 1:00 PM	
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