



Maryland Food System Resiliency Council

Communications and Coordination Subcommittee

Notes

Mar 28, 2022 1:00pm - 1:30pm

1. Welcome - Michael J. Wilson and Sydney Daigle, Subcommittee Co-Chairs
2. Bill Status - Anna Sierra - [See Legislative Tracker](#)
 - a. 11 working days remain until *sine die*
 - b. Post-crossover day: of the FSRC-supported bills, 4 bills crossed both chambers, 5 bills passed one chamber but not other
 - c. Significantly amended bills - House
 - i. FARM - significant amendments to proposed spending
 - ii. Cottage Food - reduced max cap on industry sales (from \$100k to \$50k, up from the current \$25k)
 - iii. Food Environment Report - replaces program with workgroup
 - iv. SNAP state supplement - removes min. age decrease and reduces benefit baseline from \$45/month to \$40/month (current baseline is \$30/month)
 - d. Significantly amended bills - Senate
 - i. School Waste Compost - amends budget, reduces # of initiatives required to receive funding, enacts sunset
 - ii. CRO bill - removes all specified state agency responsibilities outside of MDEM
 1. Implications for FSRC - in its current form, will not negatively impact the Council; if bill passes, impact will depend on how much funding is allocated (current fiscal note includes funding for several full-time positions)
 2. Also depends on what the Council decides to do long-term (eg. stay in MDEM, etc)
 3. Council still has self-determination; MDEM exists as a coordination role
 - iii. Project Restore - adds nonprofits, prioritizes businesses that will increase healthy food availability in food access priority areas,



extends grant availability to nonprofit and food business recipients, and enacts sunset

3. Other business

- a. Redistricting will take a significant portion of remaining session
- b. HB1216 - Steve recommends FSRC formally support this bill and submit testimony
 - i. This bill establishes a fund to assist nonprofits and individual agricultural producers in urban areas with continuing education and other ways of expanding urban agricultural production for socially disadvantaged farmers
 - ii. Prince George's County Food Equity Council worked with MARBIDCO on this bill - recognizes areas that can be improved but wants to see the bill passed regardless
 - iii. Steve will send draft testimony to Michael J, Sydney, and Heather for review
- c. E&P subcommittee has talked about taking last year's report and looking through what passed, what didn't, etc. - would this be more appropriate for the full Council?
 - i. Anna: this will be included in the mid-year report requested by the legislative delegation, along with the sprint projects - post legislative session, parking lot update, etc
- d. Hearings for this week and Monday (before next legislative update meeting):
 1. Tuesday 3/29 - HB0178, HB0456
 2. Wednesday 3/30 - SB0229, HB1216
 3. Thursday 3/31 - SB0124
 4. Monday 4/4 - HB0437
 - ii. Most committees are not allowing oral testimony for opp. Chamber hearings
- e. For bills that were significantly amended - should we revise our testimony to reflect these new amendments, especially for testimony previously submitted (and will travel over with the crossfiles)?
 - i. Michael J.: up until now, our testimony has mostly been high-level support for bills without going too far into details; at this point, our energy will probably be best spent continuing this way



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Total Bills Monitored

Senate Bills Passed 3rd Reading	Senate Bills Still in Committee	House Bills Passed 3rd Reading	House Bills Still in Committee
13 (2 after crossover day)	5	11	12* (plus one voted unfavorable)

Bills that failed to cross over in both chambers:

- HB695/SB552 - Climate Crisis Plan (Del. Hidalgo-Fraiser, Sen. Kramer)
- HB857/SB971 - Concentration of Poverty School Grant (Del. Reznik, Sen. Young)
- HB1027/SB921 - SNAP for Students (Del. Solomon, Sen. Elfreth)
- HB1352 - Corrections Health and Wellness Standards (Del Hill)
- SB39 - Meat Processing Task Force (Sen. Cassilly)
 - MDA is going ahead with the task force without waiting on the legislation



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4. Hearing Schedule Week of 3/28 - 4/4

Bill# (Crossfile)	Title	Sponsor(s)	Hearing Schedule	Notes
SUPPORT				
SB0124 (HB0150)	Public Schools – Grant Program to Reduce and Compost School Waste	Senator Hettleman	H. Ways and Means 3/31/2022 - 1:00 PM	Heather submitted written testimony on 1/25 for the House hearing.
HB0178	Public Health – Cottage Food Businesses – Annual Revenues	Delegate Chang	S. Finance 3/29/2022 - 1:00 PM	Dr. Lansing has developed testimony for review.
SB0229 (HB0184)	Environment – On-Farm Composting Facilities – Permit Exemption	Senator Gallion	S. Environment and Transportation 3/30/2022 - 1:00 PM	Testimony submitted for the House.
HB0456 (SB0957)	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - State Supplement	Delegate Valentino-Smith	S. Finance 3/29/2022 - 1:00 PM	Subcommittee will draft testimony for Senate hearing, if applicable.
SB0437 (HB0540)	Agriculture - University of Maryland Extension - Urban Farmer Assistance	Senator McCray	H. Appropriations 4/04/2022 - 1:00 PM	Dr. Lansing is writing testimony.
MONITOR				



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SB0014 (HB0100)	Sustainable Maryland Program Fund - Establishment	Senator Elfreth	H. Appropriations 4/04/2022 - 1:00 PM	
HB0156	Local Governments – Urban Agricultural Incentive Zones – Authorization	Delegate Queen	S. Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/30/2022 - 1:00 PM	
HB0179	Workgroup on Food Environments	Delegate Amprey	S. Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/31/2022 - 1:00 PM	
HB1216	Department of Agriculture - Urban Agriculture Grant Fund	Delegate Wells	S. Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/30/2022 - 1:00 PM	
SB0362	Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Schools - Revisions	Senator Pinsky	H. Ways and Means 3/31/2022 - 1:00 PM	



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SB0393 (HB0414)	Economic Development - Project Restore Program and Fund	President	H. Ways and Means 3/30/2022 - 1:00 PM	
HB0680	Baltimore County - Property Tax Credit - Supermarkets	Baltimore County Delegation	S. Budget and Taxation 3/30/2022 - 1:00 PM	