



Action Alert

We need your support **TODAY** to move [SB470/HB631](#) the Maryland the Beautiful Bill forward. This bill seeks to accelerate land conservation, provide resources for land trusts to increase the conservation of Maryland's most important lands, and provide support for stewardship of these conserved lands.

This bill sets a new state land preservation goal; creates a Rapid Response Revolving Loan Fund to help land trusts quickly secure critical lands; and supports land trusts and community nonprofits in improving the stewardship and health of land.

The bill currently sits in the Environment Subcommittee of the House. The bill sponsor, Delegate Stein, has asked for help from our land trusts on moving the bill forward. You can help by making phone calls to select legislators to get their attention and support today and tomorrow.

Here are suggested talking points:

- Hello, My name is _____ and I am calling on behalf of _____ (land trust) to ask for your support of HB 631 – The Maryland the Beautiful bill.
- This bill does three things to benefit our state:
 - Sets a new state land preservation goal to conserve 30% of land by 2030 and 40% of land by 2040;
 - Creates a Rapid Response Revolving Loan Fund to help land trusts quickly secure critical lands; and
 - Supports land trusts and community nonprofits in improving the stewardship and health of lands.
- Land conservation is a simple defense to challenges like climate change, sea-level rise, and unprecedented species loss. It offers carbon sequestration, reduced flooding, clean air and water, and the preservation of essential habitat.
- Could you help us by flagging it for your colleagues on the Natural Resources, Ag & Open Space Subcommittee to ensure success in advancing the bill before crossover day?
- I would be very grateful for any support that you could lend at this crucial moment.
- Thank you.

ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

[Dana M. Stein](#), Chair (410) 841-3527, (301) 858-3527

NATURAL RESOURCES, AG & OPEN SPACES SUBCOMMITTEE

Appointed by Chair, Environment & Transportation Committee:

Chair, Baltimore City [Boyce, Regina T.](#)

Baltimore City [Addison, Jackie](#)

Baltimore County [Allen, Nick](#)

Allegany and Washington [Baker, Terry L.](#)

Kent, Queen Anne's, Cecil, and Caroline [Jacobs, Jay A.](#)

Somerset, Worcester, and Wicomico [Otto, Charles J.](#)

Baltimore County [Ruth, Sheila](#)

Baltimore County [Stein, Dana](#)

Howard County [Terrasa, Jen](#)

Howard and Montgomery [Ziegler, Natalie](#)

Please visit our website for our full [2023 Forever Maryland State Legislative Agenda](#).