

Maryland Food System Resiliency Council

June 2022 Updates for COG FARM Committee
Anna Sierra, Chief Development Officer



Maryland
DEPARTMENT OF
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Larry Hogan | Governor

Boyd K. Rutherford | Lt. Governor

Russell J. Strickland | Secretary

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Food Council Legislation

- Established by [House Bill 831/Senate Bill 723](#) – *Maryland Food System Resiliency Council*
 - *Sponsors: Senator Katie Fry Hester (D - 9: Carroll, Howard Counties), Delegate Lorig Charkoudian (D - 20: Montgomery County)*
- Added to the Public Safety Article, [Title 14](#) (Emergency Management)
- Effective June 1, 2021
- Creation supported by FARM

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Food System Resiliency Council**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Food System Resiliency Council; providing

4 for the composition, co-chairs, co-vice chairs, and staffing of the Council; providing

5 that a member of the Council may not receive compensation but may be reimbursed

6 for certain expenses; authorizing the Council to establish certain subcommittees;

7 specifying the duties of the Council; requiring the Council to submit certain reports

8 to the General Assembly on or before certain dates; making this Act an emergency

9 measure; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Maryland Food

10 System Resiliency Council.

11 BY adding to

12 Article – Public Safety

13 Section 14–1101 through 14–1103 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 11.

14 Maryland Food System Resiliency Council”

15 Annotated Code of Maryland

16 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

18 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Legislatively Defined Goals

1. Address the **food insecurity crisis** in the State resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting economic crisis
2. Develop **equity and sustainability policy recommendations** to increase the long-term resiliency of the food system
3. **Expand** the impact of existing **food council organizations**
4. Develop a **strategic plan to increase the production and procurement** of Maryland certified food



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Statutory Requirements

November 1, 2021: Interim Report to the Maryland General Assembly on key findings and activities

November 1, 2022: Report to Maryland General Assembly with recommendations for long term structure for a statewide food policy council

November 1, 2023: Report to the Maryland General Assembly on key findings and activities undertaken by the Council.



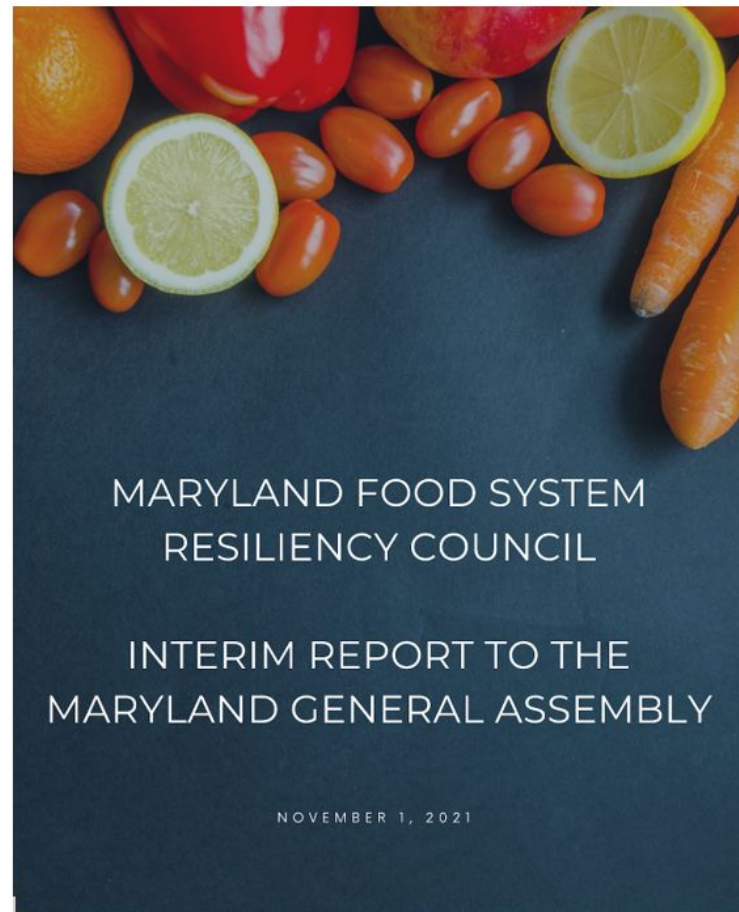
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November 2021 Report

- 16 recommendations across all four goals
- Acknowledged complex challenges like food equity and climate change need additional dialogue
- Unanimously passed among voting members



Additional FSRC Milestones

- Launched Lunch and Learn webinar series
 - Past topics include: Supply Chain Resiliency, Resilience Hubs, Local Food Councils Theory and Practice, and the MDTHINK Platform
 - Upcoming topics include: Giant Food's Food Justice and Equity mission (June), MDEM capabilities and application for food resilience (July), and Integrating Food into rural health care (TBD)
- Hired a Food Resiliency Specialist to support Council and MDEM food resiliency planning activities
- Supported active legislative session with a number of food system related bills



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Legislative Tracking

Bill #	Crossfile	Title	Support	House Bill Status	Senate Bill Status
SB0630	HB0706	Maryland Department of Emergency Management - Office of Resilience	Support with	Favorable Report from Opposite Chamber	Enacted
HB0147	SB0121	Maryland Farms and Families Fund, Maryland Food and Agricultural Resiliency	Support	Conf Comm Report Accepted	Enacted
HB0150	SB0124	Public Schools - Grant Program to Reduce and Compost School Waste	Support	Referred to Rules Opposite Chamber	Enacted
HB0178		Public Health - Cottage Food Businesses - Annual Revenues	Support	Enacted	N/A
HB0184	SB0229	Environment - On-Farm Composting Facilities - Permit Exemption	Support	In orig Committee	Referred to Committee Opposite Chamber
HB0456	SB0957	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - State Supplement	Support	Enacted	Referred to Rules Original Chamber
HB0540	SB0437	Agriculture - University of Maryland Extension - Urban Farmer Assistance	Support	Enacted	Enacted
HB0855	SB0942	Agriculture - Urban Agriculture Water and Power Infrastructure Grant Program	Support	Enacted	Enacted
HB1216		Department of Agriculture - Urban Agriculture Grant Fund	Support	Referred to EHE	N/A
	HB0661	Health - Food Service Facilities - Beverage Options with Children's Meals	Support	Unfavorable Report in Committee	Withdrawn
HB0695	SB0552	Environment - Climate Crisis Plan - Requirement (Better Together to Save Our	Monitor	In Committee	In Committee
HB1163		Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Education - Requirements	No Position	Vetoed	N/A
HB0857	SB0971	Education - Concentration of Poverty School Grant Program - School Lunch	Support	In Committee	In Committee
HB1027	SB0921	Food Supplement Benefits - Students - Eligibility (SNAP for Students)	Support	In Committee	In Rules Committee
HB0100	SB0014	Sustainable Maryland Program Fund	Monitor	In orig Committee	Enacted
HB0156		Local Governments - Urban Agricultural Incentive Zones - Authorization	Monitor	Referred to EHE	N/A
HB1217		Natural Resources - Oyster Inspection and Severance Taxes - Increase	No Position	Referred to Committee	N/A
HB0179		Counties and State Legislative Districts - Food Environment Reports	Monitor	Referred to EHE	N/A
HB1352		Health and Wellness Standards - Correctional Facilities		In Committee	N/A
SB0039		Task Force to Study the Feasibility of Returning to State Meat Processing	Support with	N/A	In Committee
HB0680		Baltimore County - Property Tax Credit - Supermarkets	Monitor	Enacted	N/A
HB1228	SB0830	Natural Resources - Oysters - Spat, Shells, and Substrate	Monitor	Enacted	Enacted
SB0362		Primary and Secondary Education - Virtual Schools - Revisions	Monitor	N/A	Vetoed
SB0378	HB0646	Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland - Funding for Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission	Monitor	Referred to Opposite Chamber Rules	Enacted
SB0393	HB0414	Economic Development - Project Restore Program and Fund	Monitor	In Committee	Referred to W&M
SB0755	HB1425	Infrastructure Grants - Federal Infrastructure Investment and Coordination Unit -	Monitor	In Committee	Referred to Rules
SB528		Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022	No Position		Enacted (Veto Override)

Legislative Session Highlights

- [SB121](#) (HB147) - Maryland Farms and Families Fund, Maryland Food and Agriculture Resiliency Mechanism Grant Program, and Maryland Farm-to-School Meal Grant Pilot Program
- [SB630](#) (HB706) - Maryland Department of Emergency Management - Office of Resilience
- [HB456](#) (SB957) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program - State Supplement
- [SB124](#) (HB150) - Public School Grant Program to Reduce and Compost School Waste
- [SB437](#)/[HB540](#) - UM Extension - Urban Farmer Assistance

Total bills tracked	26 unique bills; 42 total
Total tracked bills sent to governor	14 unique bills
Total support bills sent to governor	7 unique bills
Testimony offered	12 total bills

Budget Highlights

[SB290 - FY23 Budget](#)

Agriculture

- Seafood Processors Pandemic Response and Safety Block Grant \$222,673 in federal funding
- Specialty Crop Grant Program - \$642,545 in federal funding
- [Joint Chairmen's Report](#) requirement to study the feasibility of returning State Meat Processing Inspection (Report due 12/1/22)

Commerce

- \$100,000 for the Office of Policy and Research to support statewide economic development and resiliency planning projects such as broadband planning, economic cluster analysis, and supply chain mapping

Education

- Child Nutrition Technology Innovation Grant - \$1M (Federal Funding; Supplemental Budget #4)
- Food Services Program - \$220M (Federal Funding, Supplemental Budget #4)

Emergency Management

- FSRC Funding - \$100,000 in consulting services

Budget Highlights (cont)

Human Services

- Increase Monthly Temporary Cash Assistance and Temporary Disability Assistance Grants by \$45 Per Individual (Including in Supplemental Budget #5).

MARBIDCO

- Livestock Processing Equipment Grant Program – \$500,000 in new funding for meat processing capacity enhancement at the smaller USDA-inspected facilities in Maryland.
- Maryland Watermen’s Microloan Program – new funding for small loans to help generational watermen (and eventually beginner watermen) to purchase needed equipment.
- \$500,000 in new funding for the Maryland Wood Products Industry Equity Investment Program as part of an effort to jumpstart the Maryland Forestry Economic Adjustment Strategy.

University of Maryland

- \$500,000 for the Harry Hughes Agro-Ecology Center’s two-year climate vulnerability assessment project to facilitate the identification and resolution of climate change impacts on agriculture in Maryland.

Next Steps

- Second report due November 2022 will:
 - Continue to focus on recommendations related to the legislatively-defined goals for the FSRC
 - Make recommendations related to the future of the FSRC including structure, organization, and possible sunset terms
- Monthly Meetings (1st Thursday of every month)
- Subcommittee meetings (bi-monthly and monthly)
- Check the [Maryland Food System Resiliency Council](#) for updates!



The mission of the Maryland Department of Emergency Management is to proactively reduce disaster risks and reliably manage consequences through collaborative work with Maryland's communities and partners.

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