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**HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
TRANSPORTATION AND THE ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE**

SENATE BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

PUBLIC SAFETY, TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

1) The Department of Legislative Services (DLS) recommends that committee narrative be adopted requesting MDA to submit a report on the Office of Resource Conservation grant funding levels for the fiscal 2021 working appropriation and fiscal 2022 allowance by fund and fund source.

MDA will submit a report on the Office of Resource Conservation grant funding levels for Fiscal 2021 and Fiscal 2022 allowance as requested due at the time of the submission of our Fiscal 2022 budget request.

2) DLS recommends that the special fund appropriation in the Program Planning and Development program within the Office of Resource Conservation attributable to the Animal Waste Technology Fund be reduced by \$1,500,000.

MDA accepts this recommendation.

3) DLS recommends that a Budget Reconciliation and Financing Act (BRFA) provision be adopted to transfer \$216,253 in fiscal 2020 general funds from the Marketing and Agriculture Development program to the General Fund reflecting unused federal Dairy Margin Protection Program premium subsidy funding, leaving \$10,000 for any remaining subsidy payments.

MDA accepts this recommendation.

4) DLS recommends that committee narrative be adopted requesting that MDA continue to report on the discussions around the implementation of Maryland's agricultural strategic plan.

MDA will submit a report outlining the discussions around the implementation of Maryland's agricultural strategic plan and provide this report by December 1, 2020, as requested.

5) DLS recommends that committee narrative be adopted requesting information on the overall status of the dairy industry in Maryland, including the number of farms, milk production in million pounds, and average milk price for calendar 2015 through 2020 as well as what actions are being taken to mitigate the concerns of low milk price and high feed cost. In addition, it is recommended that the report include the following calendar 2019 and 2020 measures by month for the Dairy Margin Coverage Program: all milk prices in dollars per hundredweight; feed cost for the program in dollars per hundredweight; the milk margin above the feed cost; and the Maryland dairy farmer payment with \$9.50 protection.

MDA will submit a report on the overall status of the dairy industry in Maryland and provide this report by January 1, 2021, as requested.