Maryland voters want large chicken processing companies to pay for the removal of waste—instead of sticking contract growers with the bill.

- **86%** of Maryland voters support this measure.
- **84%** of voters on the Eastern Shore support this measure.

- Big poultry corporations need to pay their fair share for removal of chicken waste they produce.
- We need to pass reasonable methods of oversight.

The Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future worked with Greenberg Quinlan Rosner (GQR) to conduct a survey of Maryland voters. The survey was conducted in 2016 among 500 registered voters across Maryland, with an additional 100 voters from the Eastern Shore for a statewide total of 600.

Contact: Bob Martin (rmarti57@jhu.edu)
Maryland voters support measures that would allow local areas to limit new poultry houses and number of chickens.

76% of Maryland voters support this measure.

71% of voters on the Eastern Shore support this measure.

- We need to balance a successful poultry industry with making sure Marylanders can enjoy their property and communities.
- Farm emissions create foul odors and are linked to respiratory problems. We need to protect the air we breathe.

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Maryland voters support a 5-cent per chicken fee on processing companies that would be dedicated to protecting the environment.

67% of Maryland voters support this measure.

69% of voters on the Eastern Shore support this measure.

- We need to balance a successful poultry industry with protecting our vital tourist industry.
- The poultry industry is important to Maryland’s economy—these changes will strengthen the industry as a whole.
VOTERS WANT REFORMS TO CONTRACTING SYSTEM

There is broad support for reforms to the production contracting system across party lines.

- 95% of Democrats support changing the production system.
- 77% of Republicans support changing the production system.

- Currently 7 in 10 local growers who work under production contract systems live below the poverty line.
- The contracting system lacks transparency, and processing companies use unfair “tournament” pricing systems to pit growers against each other.

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