

February 28, 2020

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky, Chair
The Honorable Cheryl C. Kagan, Vice Chair
and Members
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: SB 432 – Charles County – Public Safety – Buildings Used for Agritourism
Letter of Support - EHEA – Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 1:00 pm

Dear Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and Members:

I am seeking your support of the above entitled SB 432. This proposal was included in the Charles County Commissioners 2020 Legislative Package, and would allow Charles County to join 10 other Maryland counties and opt-in to legislation which allows certain agritourism buildings certain exemptions from building codes.

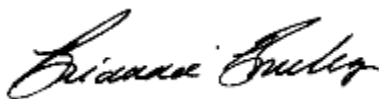
SB 432 will benefit Charles County with increased revenue and tax base by enhancing the marketability of our area as a tourist destination. It will provide additional educational opportunities as well as entertainment for our community. It allows landowners to make a living utilizing their land.

It does not pose a public safety risk, as the buildings still need to follow other building codes such as adhering to structural integrity standards and entrance and exit requirements. For this reason, our county's EMS and Fire Department have expressed verbal and written support.

This bill has so many things to offer and nearly no potential issues. So much so, that it was unanimously approved by our County Commissioners and supported by our Planning & Growth Management and Economic Development Division.

Thank you for the opportunity to present our support for SB 432. I will be in attendance at the hearing on March 4, 2020 in the event you have any other questions.

Sincerely,



Brianna Bowling
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(301) 643-0985 brianna@zekiah.com

cc: The Hon. Arthur Ellis