Anne Arundel County_FAV_SB131 Uploaded by: Administration, Anne Arundel County

Position: FAV



February 5, 2020

Senate Bill 131

State Highways – Commercial Signs in Rights–of–Way – Penalties

Senate Finance Committee

Position: FAVORABLE

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** Senate Bill 131 State Highways – Commercial Signs in Rights–of–Way – Penalties. This Bill would increase the maximum civil penalty applicable to a violation for affixing a commercial sign to a State highway sign, signal, or marker in the State highway right–of–way.

Illegal signs affixed to State highway signs, signals, and markers in state highway rights of way are not only an aesthetic problem, but a public safety problem as well. Illegal signs distract drivers, obscure traffic control measures, and impede bicyclists and pedestrians, all which increase the risk of accidents and injuries. Increasing the maximum civil penalty for persons who violate the prohibition on illegally affixing commercial signs to State highway signs, signals, and markers will help deter a practice which diminishes the safety of all who travel our public roadways.

Accordingly, Anne Arundel County requests a FAVORABLE report on Senate Bill 131.

Rommel Crabtree_Support_SB0131 Uploaded by: Crabtree, Rommel

Position: FAV

Rammel Crabtree

P.O. Box 1210, Abingdon, MD 21009

February 4, 2020

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley Chair, Finance Committee 3 East Miller Senate Office Bldg Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB131 - Commercial Signs in Rights-of-Way - Support

Dear Chairwoman Kelley:

Our State and local government agencies have been unsuccessfully battling the scourge of illegally placed signs attached to every structure imaginable in public right of ways for decades. In 2011 we modified Transportation Article 8-605 to allow State & local jurisdictions to levy a \$25 fine for each sign illegally placed. However, we soon learned that the fine amount did not cover the cost of administering the program.

In the intervening years the problem has grown, with thousands of "We (or I) Buy Houses", "Health Insurance for Self Employed", "Cash for Cars", "We Buy Diabetic Test Strips", "Get Your Medical Marijuana Card", etc. ad nauseam.

We've learned that this bandit sign blight can be almost eliminated when enforcement is consistent and the penalties painful. With a \$1,000 fine our enforcement agencies will be able to afford the enforcement effort and violators will get the message. Please support SB131.

Respectfully,

~ 74

rommelcrabtree@verizon.net

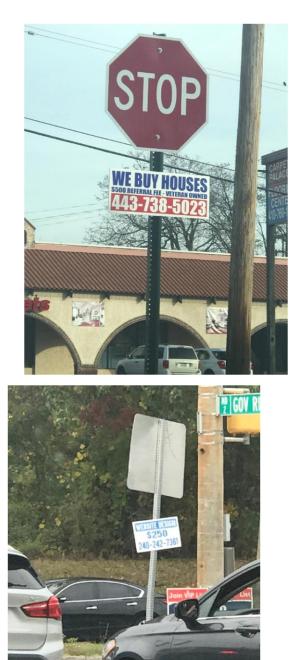
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Senator_Simonaire_FAV_SB131 Uploaded by: Senator Simonaire, Senator Simonaire Position: FAV





































Senator_Simonaire2_FAV_SB131 Uploaded by: Senator Simonaire, Senator Simonaire Position: FAV

BRYAN W. SIMONAIRE Legislative District 31 Anne Arundel County

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Alcohol

Health

Joint Committee on the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays Critical Area



James Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street, Room 320 Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-3658 · 301-858-3658 800-492-7122 Ext. 3658 Fax 410-841-3586 · 301-858-3586 Bryan.Simonaire@senate.state.md.us



Written Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 131

Madam Chair and members of the Finance Committee, I am here to introduce and voice my support for Senate Bill 131 – *State Highways – Commercial Signs in Rights-of-Way – Penalties.*

Senate Bill 131 would increase the maximum civil penalty applicable to a violation for affixing a commercial sign to a State highway sign, signal, or marker in the State highway right-of-way to \$100 per commercial sign affixed and would clarify certain language establishing a civil penalty for a violation of the prohibition against placing or maintaining commercial signs in a State highway right-of-way.

Nathan Volke_FAV_Sb131 Uploaded by: Volke, Nathan

Position: FAV

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

NATHAN VOLKE Third District

February 5, 2020

The Honorable Bryan Simonaire Maryland State Senate James Senate Office Building 11 Bladen St., Room 320 Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Support for SB131 - State Highways - Commercial Signs in Rights-of-Way - Penalties

Dear Senator Simonaire,

On behalf of myself, Councilman Nathan Volke, I am writing to support the Senate Bill 131 to reduce the commercial signs that are presently in right of ways. This has been an ongoing issues for years in my district and others. This bill would align with keeping our roads and highways clean, reduce visual distractions for drivers and make our roadways safer.

We thank you for taking the appropriate action and hope the delegation will consider this bill to keep the citizens of our community and state safe.

Sincerely,

Matha Elalh

The Honorable Nathan Volke