

## **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

*Rommel 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,



rommelcrabtree@verizon.net

410-419-1700

## **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



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Bryan.Simonaire@senate.state.md.us

*The Senate of Maryland*  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nathan E. Volke". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underlining the first name.

The Honorable Nathan Volke