



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

February 11, 2025

Delegate Marc Korman, Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support for House Bill 749—Washington County—Public Safety—Buildings Used
for Agritourism


Dear Delegate Korman:

The Board of County Commissioners of Washington County (the “Board”) unanimously support the passage of HB 749. As currently drafted, HB 749 would add Washington County to the list of counties where an existing agricultural building used for agritourism is not considered a change of occupancy that requires a building permit under certain circumstances.

Passage of this bill would allow Washington County to join the thirteen other Counties that presently enjoy more flexible and forgiving requirements for the use of agricultural buildings used for agritourism. This bill will be particularly useful to Washington County because of the vast number of agricultural and agriculture-adjacent businesses that reside within the County. When considering the County’s abundant farmland and robust agritourism industry, the passage of HB 749 and the accompanying reduction of bureaucratic “red tape” would be a significant benefit to the County citizens in the agritourism business. Many of which are small and multi-generational family businesses.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: 
John F. Barr, President

cc (via email): Washington County Delegation