

**SB 649\_CEGardner\_fav.pdf**

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Position: FAV



**JAN H. GARDNER**  
**Frederick County**  
**Executive**

**SB 649**

**Frederick County – Disposition  
of Marriage Ceremony Fee**

**County Position: FAVORABLE**

Date: February 22, 2022  
Committee: Judicial Proceedings

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner urges a **FAVORABLE REPORT** for Senate Bill 649 – Frederick County – Disposition of Marriage Ceremony Fee.

Heritage and historical societies research, collect, and preserve our historical documents and artifacts. These organizations have a long tradition of keeping genealogy records, specifically marriage records, and serve as stewards of these important documents. Substantial professional resources, specialized equipment and storage are necessary to ensure proper handling, archiving and cataloging of these valuable documents.

County Executive Gardner supports the provisions in the proposed legislation that:

- Directs \$15 of the \$25 fee collected in Frederick County for marriages performed by the clerk of the circuit court to Heritage Frederick to support the collection and maintenance of the County's marriage records;
- Enables Frederick County to join nine other counties in the State that direct civil marriage ceremony fees towards this purpose; and
- Ensures accountability regarding the use of these funds with a requirement of annual reporting by Heritage Frederick and the authority to request a financial audit of Heritage Frederick by the County Executive and the Maryland Historical Trust.

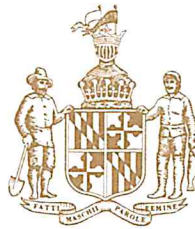
Frederick County Executive Gardner urges a **FAVORABLE** report for Senate Bill 649.

**SB649\_SenYoung\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ronald Young

Position: FAV

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Frederick County



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Budget and Taxation Committee  
Chair, Executive Nominations Committee

Senate Chair, Joint Subcommittee on  
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February 22, 2022  
**SB649 - SUPPORT**  
Frederick County - Marriage Ceremony Fees

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

**SB649** is a Frederick County delegation bill that seeks to direct \$15 of the civil marriage fees to the county's historical organization - Heritage Frederick. Heritage Frederick, among preserving and collecting Frederick County's historical documents, is the repository of Frederick County's marriage records.

Currently the Clerk of Court charges \$25 for civil marriage ceremonies of which \$10 is distributed to Frederick County's General Fund and the remaining \$15 stays with the Clerk of Court.

Frederick County is asking to join the nine (9) other Maryland jurisdictions that have been granted the authority to redirect a portion of the county civil marriage fees from the state back to their county heritage organizations.

**SB649** has the support of the Frederick County Delegation, Frederick County Council, and the Frederick County Executor.

I ask the committee for a favorable report of **SB649**.

Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Ronald N. Young in black ink.  
Senator Ronald Young