



JAN H. GARDNER
Frederick County
Executive

HB 267

**Criminal Law – Threat Against
Public Health Official or
Hospital Staff Member**

County Position: SUPPORT

Date: January 25, 2022
Committee: Judiciary

Frederick County Executive Jan Gardner urges your **SUPPORT** for House Bill 267 – Criminal Law – Threat Against Public Health Official or Hospital Staff Member.

Public health officials and the staff of our hospitals provide essential services and meet the health needs of the communities they serve. Importantly, public health officials play a critical role in connecting all of our residents, particularly our most vulnerable, to care, supports, and access to healthcare information, services and providers. During the historic COVID-19 global pandemic, they have continued their core mission while providing comprehensive response to keep communities safe and individuals healthy.

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

- Acknowledges the important role of our public health officials and all hospital staff in community health and their tireless work to meet the challenges of COVID-19;
- Ensures that healthcare and services are provided to residents without disruptions caused by persons intent on impeding or interfering with the work of public health officials and hospital staff; and
- Increases protection of these critical officials and staff, enabling them to continue to provide much-needed services to the community, free from fear and intimidation.

Frederick County Executive Gardner urges favorable **SUPPORT** for House Bill 267.