



# FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## OFFICE OF AGRICULTURE

Jessica Fitzwater  
*County Executive*

*Katie Stevens, Director*

### SB 1166 - Frederick County - Scenic Byways - Signs

**DATE:** April 2, 2024  
**COMMITTEE:** Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
**POSITION:** Favorable  
**FROM:** The Frederick County Office of Agriculture

As the Director of the Frederick County Office of Agriculture, I urge the committee to give SB 1166 – Frederick County – Scenic Byways – Signs a favorable report. This bill aims to allow for the State Highway Administration to issue a permit for an outdoor sign along or near a scenic byway on a federal-aid primary highway in Frederick County.

Frederick County has dedicated significant resources to Agriculture, including through land preservation and helping farmers diversify their operations. Agriculture stands as Frederick’s largest industry, and it’s imperative that we support farmers in diversifying their operations by growing and selling food to our local community. Furthermore, it is crucial that farmers have the ability to promote their operations, reaching a wider audience and bolstering their businesses.

Our County has continued to make historic investments in preserving agricultural land. These lands often serve as the backdrop to highways throughout our region. By allowing signs along these scenic routes, we can help visitors and residents identify the landscape and destination opportunities around them as well as where they can support local farms.

Thank you for your consideration of SB 1166. I urge you to advance this bill with a favorable report, as it will greatly benefit our agricultural community and promote the beauty and importance of agriculture in Frederick County.

Thank You,

*Katie Stevens*

Katie Stevens  
Director  
Frederick County Office of Agriculture