



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

February 20, 2025

Senator Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee  
2 West Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: **Support for Senate Bill 580—Washington County—Public Safety—Buildings Used for Agritourism**

Dear Senator Feldman:

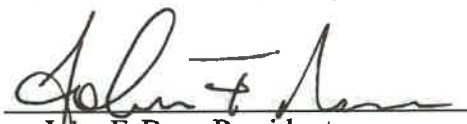
The Board of County Commissioners of Washington County (the “Board”) unanimously support the passage of SB 580. As currently drafted, SB 580 would add Washington County to the list of counties where an existing agricultural building used for agritourism is not considered a change of occupancy that requires 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. With its abundant farmland and many agricultural buildings, the County is poised to immediately reap the economic benefits of the passage of SB 580.

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY:



John F. Barr, President