

**SB0544. Agritourism – chemical / portable toilets**

Thank you for considering SB544. We hope to deregulate agritourism and boost the right kind of growth for Maryland. I'm a resident of Washington County and have been frustrated for a decade operating my agritourism business in a "gray area." By easing regulations on agritourism, we aim to enhance economic opportunities and support a vibrant local economy. This bill allows farmers to use their properties in new and dynamic ways as agricultural practices evolve. It encourages educational programs, value-added agriculture and cultural events, therefore providing unique recreational opportunities for residents and tourists alike.

Deregulating the septic requirement opens the gates for seasonal opportunity bringing life and revenue back to the farm. These properties are rural and don't have access to public water and sewer and the expense of a commercial septic hinders, or even completely squashes creativity and economic growth. Farms are the viewshed our neighbors appreciate and ensuring these properties have revenue to maintain and restore these properties is important for all of us.

Support bill 580 to promote growth, resilience, and community pride across Maryland.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Erin Moshier', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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