

JASON C. GALLION
Legislative District 35
Harford and Cecil Counties

Education, Energy, and
the Environment Committee



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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February 10th, 2026

Senator Brian Feldman, Chair
Senator Cheryl Kagan, Vice Chair

Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee

Re: Favorable - SB 256 – State Board of Landscape Architects – Revisions

SB 256 makes targeted but meaningful reforms to how Maryland licenses and regulates landscape architects. Specifically, the bill:

- Updates the official name of the licensing board to the State Board of Professional Landscape Architects to better reflect the modern scope of the profession;
- Revises the definition of “licensed landscape architects” to “professional landscape architects” for clarity and consistency;
- Adjusts qualifications for board membership to ensure a broader and more effective representation of the landscape architecture profession;
- Clarifies and updates certain duties of the Board to support better governance;
- Aligns educational and experience requirements for licensure with current professional standards in the field.

These changes improve the regulatory framework in a way that balances public protection with professional development. Landscape architects play a vital role in environmental stewardship, sustainable land use, stormwater management, and public space design across Maryland. SB 256 does not expand regulatory authority unnecessarily nor does it introduce burdensome requirements on practitioners. Rather, it modernizes existing statutes and ensures that Maryland’s licensing framework supports quality, safety, and public confidence in the profession.

Licensure and its oversight matter: they help protect the public by ensuring that only qualified individuals practice in areas that affect land use, community spaces, and environmental outcomes. This bill advances those goals while supporting Maryland’s landscape architecture community.

For these reasons, I respectfully request a favorable report on SB 256.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Gallion".

Jason Gallion

Senator – District 35