

JASON C. GALLION
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Harford and Cecil Counties

Education, Health, and
Environmental Affairs Committee



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February 11th, 2020

The Honorable Paul Pinsky, Chair and Members

Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Re: Senate Bill SB 244 – Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation – Valuation of Easement

Position: Support

Chairman Pinsky and EHEA Committee Members:

SB244 simply changes the length of time that appraisals can be used by MALPF in determining the fair market value of an easement. The MALPF appraisal process can take up to a year to complete and it must be done every year under current law. Since there is a lot of interest but limited funds, it creates a cycle of repeat applications submitting year after year and having to be reappraised.

By changing it to every two years, it allows the process to be more efficient by giving appraisers more time and resources to focus on other appraisals rather than redoing the same appraisal every year.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this proposed legislation.

Regards,

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

Senator Jason Gallion