



February 7, 2017

The Honorable Joan Carter Conway
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 285 – Agricultural Land Preservation Easements - Overlay Easements, Rights-of-Way, or Servitudes – **Support**

Dear Senator Conway:

Senate Bill 285 prohibits a landowner whose land is subject to agricultural preservation easement from granting, or allowing a person to establish, an overlay easement, a right-of-way, or any other servitude on the land without prior permission of the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation (MALPF). It also authorizes the Foundation to approve an overlay easement, a right-of-way, or any other servitude on land subject to an agricultural land preservation easement as long as it does not have a permeant effect on the conservation attributes or agricultural use of the land.

This Bill will expand the current law and include overlay easements with permission from the MALPF, which is a step forward.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 560 members, supports this bill and asks that you give it a favorable report

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Senator Justin Ready
Delegate Susan W. Krebs