

Agritourism Bills in Annapolis 2/16/18

**HB1351 - Agriculture - Easements - Special Occasion Events**

Delegate Krebs, E&T at 1:00pm in 250 HOB

This bill would allow an owner of land that is under the ag land preservation easement to have a location on their land to have a special occasion event which includes a wedding, a lifetime milestone event, or other cultural or social events. To be allowed to have this event, the property must have been under easement for at least 10 years, be approved by the local land preservation board and the event must be allowed by the federal, state and local regulations.

**HB0518 - Alcoholic Beverages - Reform on Tap Act of 2018**

Chair ECM, ECM at 1:00pm in 230 HOB

This relaxes the wholesale/retail alcohol laws for craft and on-farm breweries to allow the production and sale of more product.

**HB0962 - Alcoholic Beverages - Auxiliary Winery Permit**

Delegate Mautz, ECM at 1:00pm in 230 HOB

This bill will allow the holder of only a Class 4 Limited Winery Permit (farm level winery & tasting room) to also obtain an auxiliary permit at another location to provide tastings, sell wine and conduct all other activities allowed under the Class 4 Limited Winery permit except fermenting and bottling. The cost of the auxiliary permit is \$250.00 per year. This will allow a farmer who produces wine and sells it primarily at a farm-located tasting room to also establish a tasting room in a more populated area to reach residents who do not make the trip out to the farm to partake of the locally produced wine.

**HB1116 - Public Safety - Agritourism - Permit Exemption**

Delegate Krebs, E&T at 1:00pm in 250 HOB

This bill just adds Carroll County to the list of counties that exempt existing ag structures that are going to be used for agritourism from being required to retrofit the structure with bathrooms, sprinklers and other high occupancy requirements. The structure must still adhere to the structural integrity standards as well as entrance and exit requirements. The counties already exempt are: Calvert County, Cecil County, Charles County, Dorchester County, Frederick County, Garrett County, Harford County, Prince George's County, St. Mary's County, Somerset County, and Talbot County.