

FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Jan H. Gardner
County Executive

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Public Requests for Legislation/Position Statements

Frederick County Commission For Women

Submitted by: Lakshmi Darbha, President, Frederick County Commission for Women

--

The Commission for Women requested position statements in support of legislation that failed to move or stalled in the 2019 General Assembly Session. 1) Protective Orders Relief Eligibility, Rape and Sexual Offenses. 2) Labor and Employment – Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program - Establishment (Time to Care Act of 2019). 3) Labor and Employment 4) Criminal Procedure Motion to Vacate Judgment Human Trafficking (True Freedom Act of 2019). 5) Wage History and Wage Range. (Proposed by Delegate Karen Lewis Young). 6) Family Law Child Support Eligibility of a Child Who Has Attained the Age of 18 Years. And 7) Discrimination in Employment – Pregnancy and Childbirth.

Frederick County Teachers Association

Submitted by: Melissa Dirks, President

--

The Frederick County Teachers Association requested a position statement of support for 1) a legislative fix to the Governor's withholding of school construction money that was earmarked by the legislature for expenditure in FY20. And 2) Support for recommendations of the Kirwan Commission

Housing Authority of the City of Frederick (HACF)

Submitted by: Angie Liddiard, Director of Economic Development

--

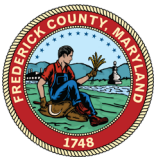
HACF requested protection of affordable housing resources and investments. They asked for legislation to incentivize local Housing Authorities to be part of development teams and to receive the right of first refusal for affordable housing developments in their communities. Such legislation would help to ensure the long-term success and affordability of the affordable housing projects in the local community and preserve the valuable resources which are contributed.

Local Drug and Alcohol Abuse Council (LDAAC), Frederick County Health Department

Submitted by: Santita Prather, LDAAC Chair

--

LDAAC requested legislation to merge with the county's Mental Health Advisory Committee to form a new Behavioral Health Advisory Council. The Maryland Department of Health's Behavioral Health Administration directed the Core Service Agency and the existing Local Addiction Authority of the health department to integrate to improve systems management of the public behavioral health system. Now that oversight of Frederick's behavioral health system has been integrated, the LDAAC believes it would be appropriate for the MHAC and LDAAC to merge to improve effectiveness and efficiency.



FREDERICK COUNTY GOVERNMENT

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Moms Demand Action Frederick County

Submitted by: Jessica Douglass, Legislative Lead

--

Moms Demand Action requested a position statement of support for legislation to close the long gun loophole in Maryland's background check laws for gun purchases. In Maryland, gun sales require a background check, except for long guns that are purchased through an unlicensed dealer. This loophole allows a person who would otherwise be denied purchase of a gun in the state of Maryland to avoid a background check. There are more guns offered for sale online that do not require a background check in Frederick County than in any other county in the state.

Sustainability Commission

Submitted by: Faith H. Klareich, Commissioner

--

The Sustainability Commission suggested several legislative initiatives, including efforts to encourage regenerative agriculture. The goal of regenerative agriculture is to improve top soil performance by naturally rebuilding its organic matter. Among the Commission's suggestions are the creation of an insurance fund for Frederick farmers who are transitioning from traditional to regenerative agriculture; state tax credits for regenerative agriculture; cost-sharing of investments to transition from traditional to regenerative ag; and a training and technical assistance program.

Transportation Services Advisory Council (TSAC)

Submitted by: Michael Levensgood, Vice Chair

--

TSAC requested support for additional paratransit funding in the County's 2020 Legislative Package. Paratransit provides transportation for seniors and people with disabilities. As the senior population continues to increase, the demand for trips to medical and other appointments grows with it. TransIT is already at capacity, currently denying requests on a regular basis. There are no public/private funding partnerships, and State funding has been flat for over 10 years. The primary funding comes from the County. Without additional funding, resources cannot be added to meet this need.

United Way of Frederick County

Submitted by: Ken Oldham, President & CEO

--

The Frederick County United Way requested support for five initiatives to address poverty in Frederick County. 1) Increase access to workforce housing and affordable senior housing. 2) Expand public transit services and investment in mobility in rural areas of Frederick County 3) Invest in education and training programs 4) Invest in school facilities and 5) Release funds for Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA).

Veterans Advisory Council

Submitted by: Col. Fred Schumacher, ret., Chair

--

The Frederick County Veterans Advisory Council requested a bond bill for the State to help finance a Veteran Services Center at the intersection of Monocacy Boulevard and Broadband Drive.