February 19, 2021

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve Environment and Transportation Committee Room 251, House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Re: SUPPORT HB0323 Queen Anne's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Repeal of Place of Worship Prohibition

Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages §27–1601 Annotated Code of Maryland places a 500 feet location prohibition on alcohol sales relative to a place of worship, an elementary or secondary school, a public library, or a youth center sponsored or conducted by a governmental unit. This bill drops the prohibition for all places of worship. A place of worship that also houses an elementary or secondary school would still be covered. Secular Maryland agrees with this proposed repeal.