



Worcester County Government
One West Market Street | Room 1103 | Snow Hill MD 21863-1195
(410) 632-1194 | (410) 632-3131 (fax) | admin@co.worcester.md.us | www.co.worcester

January 26, 2022

Senate Delegation for the Eastern Shore
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

House Delegation for the Eastern Shore
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Senator Mary Beth Carozza
314 James Senate Office Building

Honorable Delegate Wayne A. Hartman
308 House Office Building

Honorable Delegate Charles J. Otto
321 House Office Building

Dear Delegates Hartman and Otto and Senator Carozza:

On January 11, 2022, the Worcester County Commissioners reviewed and endorsed a request from the Ocean City Mayor and Council seeking enabling legislation from the Maryland Legislature that would give Worcester County the authority to increase the County room tax from five percent to a maximum of six percent. This would allow the town to cover future tourism-related expenses, including the potential investment by the town in a new indoor sports facility. Therefore, we respectfully request your support as well to introduce legislation that would grant Worcester County the authority to increase the county room tax to a maximum of six percent.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support of this enabling legislation. If you should have any questions or concerns or if we can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact either me or Chief Administrative Officer Weston Young.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Mitrecic".

Joe Mitrecic
President



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January 17, 2023

President J. Travis Breeding
Caroline County Commissioners
County Courthouse
109 Market Street, Room 123
Denton, MD 21629
info@carolinemd.org

President Ronald Fithian
Kent County Commissioners
400 High Street
Chestertown, MD 21620
kentcounty@kentgov.org

President Jim Moran
Queen Anne's County Commissioners
107 North Liberty Street
Centerville, MD 21617
qaccommissionersandadministrator@qac.org

RE: Seeking Support for Enabling Legislation to Increase County Room Tax

Dear Presidents Breeding, Fithian, and Moran:

The Worcester County Commissioners are seeking your support for enabling legislation granting the Eastern Shore Code Home Rule Counties the authority to increase the hotel room tax from five percent to a maximum of six percent. As background, in January 2022 we endorsed a request from the Ocean City Mayor and Council for this legislation, which would allow the town to cover future tourism-related expenses.

As you know, hotel room tax revenues provide a dedicated source to fund tourism and tourism-related activities, and the return for each dollar invested in tourism marketing generates \$31 in visitor spending, making the authority to increase hotel room tax by up to an additional one percent mutually beneficial to each of our Eastern Shore Code Home Rule Counties, as we promote tourism-related activities that attract residents and visitors alike to live, play, and explore our Eastern Shore communities.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and support of our request. We are available to meet with you at a mutually beneficial time if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.", written over a large, stylized loop.

Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.
President

CC: Senator Mary Beth Carozza
Delegate Wayne Hartman
Delegate Charles Otto



CAROLINE COUNTY
you belong here
CAROLINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICE

JAMES TRAVIS BREEDING, PRESIDENT
LARRY C. PORTER, VICE PRESIDENT
NORMAN FRANKLIN BARTZ, III., COMMISSIONER
109 Market Street, Room 123
Denton, Maryland 21629

February 1, 2023

President Anthony W. Berino, Jr.
Worcester County Commissioners
Worcester County Government Center
1 W. Market St. Room 1103
Snow Hill, MD 21863

Re: Enabling Legislation for Increasing County Room Tax – Letter of Support.

Honorable Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.,

The Commissioners of Caroline County are in support of enabling legislation granting the Eastern Shore Code Home Rule Counties the authority to increase the hotel room tax from 5% to the maximum of 6%.

As mentioned in your communications, the Department of Legislative Services requested that each Home Rule County on the Eastern Shore be in support of increasing the hotel room tax to successfully pass this legislation. With this, we hope this letter provides adequate verification of our support.

Sincerely,

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
CAROLINE COUNTY, MARYLAND
J. Travis Breeding, President



The County Commissioners of Kent County
Ronald H. Fithian, President | Albert H. Nickerson, Member | John F. Price, Member
Shelley L. Heller, County Administrator | Thomas N. Yeager, County Attorney

February 2, 2023

The Honorable Anthony W. Bertino, Jr.
President, Worcester County Government
One West Market Street – Room 1103
Snow Hill, MD 21863-1195

RE: Support for Enabling Legislation to Increase County Room Tax

Dear President Bertino:

On behalf of the County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland, this letter serves as support for enabling legislation to increase county room tax for Eastern Shore Code Home Rule Counties. The Commissioners appreciate the opportunity to lend our support to our fellow Eastern Shore Counties.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shelley L. Heller", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Shelley L. Heller
County Administrator

SLH: ltc

cc: The County Commissioners of Kent County, Maryland



Queen Anne's County

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY

The Liberty Building
107 North Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617

e-mail: QACCommissioners&Administrator@gac.org

County Commissioners:

- James J. Moran, At Large
Jack N. Wilson, Jr., District 1
J. Patrick McLaughlin, District 2
Philip L. Dumenil, District 3
Christopher M. Corchiarino, District 4

County Administrator: Todd R. Mohn, PE
Executive Assistant to County Commissioners: Margie A. Houck
County Attorney: Patrick Thompson, Esquire

January 26, 2023

Anthony Bertino Jr., President
Worcester County Government
One West Market Street
Room 1103
Snow Hill, MD 21863-1195

Dear Mr. Bertino,

The Queen Anne's County Commissioners are in support of enabling legislation granting the Eastern Shore Code Home Rule Counties the authority to increase the hotel room tax from five percent to a maximum of six percent. This increase allows tourism related expenses to be covered. Hotel room tax revenues provide a dedicated source to fund tourism and tourism-related activities, and the return for each dollar invested in tourism marketing generates \$31 in visitor spending, making the authority to increase hotel room tax by up to an additional one percent mutually beneficial to each of our Eastern Shore Code Home Rule Counties, as we promote tourism-related activities that attract residents and visitors alike to live, play, and explore our Eastern Shore Communities.

Sincerely,

QUEEN ANNE'S COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

[Signature of James J. Moran]
James J. Moran, President

[Signature of Jack N. Wilson, Jr.]
Jack N. Wilson, Jr.

[Signature of Philip L. Dumenil]
Philip L. Dumenil

[Signature of Christopher M. Corchiarino]
Christopher M. Corchiarino

[Signature of J. Patrick McLaughlin]
J. Patrick McLaughlin

CC: Senator Steve Hershey
Delegate Steve Arentz
Delegate Jeff Ghrist
Delegate Jay Jacobs
Bruce Bereano