



Ocean City, Maryland Chamber of Commerce

410-213-0144 info@oceancity.org
oceancity.org 12320 Ocean Gateway, Ocean City, MD 21842

TESTIMONY OFFERED ON BEHALF OF THE GREATER OCEAN CITY MARYLAND CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

IN SUPPORT OF:

HB1281 – Economic Development - Tourism Zones - Designation and Benefits

Before:

Ways and Means Committee

Hearing: 2/29/24 at 1:00 PM

The Greater Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, representing more than 700 regional businesses and job creators, **SUPPORTS House Bill HB1281 – Economic Development - Tourism Zones - Designation and Benefits**. This legislation would authorize the governing body of a county or municipality to designate, by law, an area within that political subdivision as a tourism zone under certain circumstances; authorizing a county or municipality to exempt from the admissions and amusement tax gross receipts from certain admissions or amusement charges levied in a tourism zone.

This legislation will help incentivize business owners to invest in tourism in communities across Maryland, including the greater Ocean City area, to attract visitors, which is an investment with a high ROI for the revenue of the state.

The Greater Ocean City Chamber respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE REPORT for HB1281**. Please feel free to contact the Chamber directly at 410-213-0144 should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Thompson
Executive Director
amy@oceancity.org

Joe Schanno
Legislative Committee Chair
joe.schanno@gmail.com