



**MARYLAND
TOURISM
COALITION**

February 22, 2024

Maryland Senate
Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair
Judicial Proceedings Committee
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Support of SB 428 - Garrett County Alcoholic Beverages Act of 2024

Chairperson Beidle and Members of the Committee,

My name is Matt Libber, and I am the Legislative Committee Chair for the Maryland Tourism Coalition (MTC). I am writing to you today to express MTC's support for Senate Bill 428. The Maryland Tourism Coalition is a trade organization with members representing all areas of tourism in the State of Maryland. Our mission is to support businesses and organizations that cater to the tourism industry through education, networking, and advocacy. As such, MTC asks the committee to vote in favor of this bill.

This bill will provide an update and modernize the alcohol licenses offered in Garret County to assist the resorts and other businesses located within the county to offer additional amenities and offerings to their patrons. Tourism is a major economic driver for Garrett County and the State of Maryland. This modernization of its alcohol licensing will allow businesses and resorts in the County to be more competitive with those in neighboring states and jurisdictions in maintaining their existing client base as well as attracting new and greater number of visitors each year. The addition of a Festival License option will also allow new events to be created in the County to drive even more visitors to the area in the off season and shoulder seasons.

For these reasons, the Maryland Tourism Coalition asks this committee to vote in favor of this legislation and forward it for a full vote within the Senate of Maryland.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Libber
Legislative Chair
Maryland Tourism Coalition
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