

BEN BARNES
Legislative District 21
Prince George's and
Anne Arundel Counties

—
Chair
Appropriations Committee



The Maryland House of Delegates
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The Maryland House of Delegates
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Greetings Members of the House Appropriations Committee,

House Bill 1072 proposes to increase the sales and use tax rate for alcoholic beverages - specifically, the bill seeks to raise the tax rate from 9% to 10% of the charge for the alcoholic beverage.

It is critical for the State to explore avenues for sustainable revenue generation to continue providing essential services for all Marylanders. By modestly adjusting the tax rate on alcoholic beverages, we can ensure that those who indulge in non-essential goods contribute their fair share to the operation of our state and the provision of essential services.

HB 1072 represents a crucial step towards promoting public health and enhancing our state's fiscal well-being. By supporting this legislation, we demonstrate our commitment to safeguarding the health and prosperity of all Maryland residents and our commitment towards taking steps to reduce the structural deficit. I ask for a favorable report.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Barnes", written in a cursive style.

Delegate Ben Barnes, Chair
Appropriations Committee
District 21