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TESTIMONY ON SB#/0636- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages - Tasting Permits

TO: Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and members of the Finance Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#/0636, Frederick County - Alcoholic Beverages - Tasting Permits

This bill is a priority for the Frederick County Delegation.

Under current law the board may issue a beer and wine consumption permit or a beer, wine, and liquor consumption permit to a holder of an appropriate Class A license. A consumption permit authorizes a license holder to serve specified alcoholic beverages for on-premises consumption. An establishment with a consumption permit may allow an individual to consume a single serving of 12 total ounces of beer or 6 total ounces of wine, and for liquor permit holders, 1.5 total ounces of liquor. Alternatively, an establishment can allow an individual to consume three individual sample servings of beer and wine (and liquor, when applicable) in any combination, each consisting of not more than 2 ounces of beer, 1 ounce of wine, or 0.5 ounce of liquor.

This bill alters the name in Frederick County of the beer and wine consumption permit to be the beer and wine tasting permit and the beer, wine, and liquor consumption permit to be the beer, wine, and liquor tasting permit. It regulates the amounts served by requiring the Board to regulate the quantity of beer and wine served to an individual and the number of bottles or other containers from which the quantity is served. The amounts are more closely related to how samplings occur at tastings with limits that match to the processes on the amounts these business would like to have available to their guest.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#/0636.