



WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Finance Committee
Attn: Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Beidle and Committee Members

RE: Support for SB 700– Wicomico County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class B (Golf Course) License – Hours of Sale

Dear Senator Mautz:

I am writing to express my strong support for **Senate Bill 700**, which proposes to modernize the hours of sale for Class B (Golf Course) liquor licenses in Wicomico County. This bill represents a practical, business-friendly update that will strengthen local tourism, improve customer service, and help our golf facilities remain competitive in today's hospitality marketplace.

Golf courses are no longer limited to daytime recreation. Many facilities now host early-morning outings, charity tournaments, business networking events, weddings, and evening social gatherings. Allowing alcohol sales to begin at **7:00 a.m. instead of 10:00 a.m.** simply aligns the law with the realities of how golf courses operate today. For tournaments that begin early in the morning—especially fundraising and corporate events—this change is essential to meeting guest expectations and supporting the full experience that organizers seek to provide.

Equally important, extending these hours does **not** expand where alcohol can be served, who may serve it, or how it is regulated. License holders remain fully subject to all existing state and county regulations, including oversight by the Board of License Commissioners. SB 700 only adjusts the time frame during which sales may occur, giving businesses the flexibility to operate responsibly while better serving patrons.

This legislation also has clear economic benefits. Golf courses are major drivers of tourism, hospitality, and employment in Wicomico County. By enabling them to operate more competitively with similar venues in surrounding jurisdictions, SB 700 helps keep events, visitors, and spending right here in our community. Increased event bookings and customer satisfaction directly translate into more jobs, higher tax revenue, and a stronger local economy.

SB 700 is a common-sense update that supports business growth without compromising public safety. I respectfully urge the Finance Committee to give this bill a favorable report and allow Wicomico County's golf courses the tools they need to thrive.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued service to the people of Maryland.

Respectfully,

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND



Julie M. Giordano
County Executive