

February 24, 2021

The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chairman Senate Budget & Taxation Committee

Re: Senate Bill 730 – Income Tax - Credit for Travel, Hospitality, and Entertainment Expenses

Position: Support

Chairman Guzzone and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Maryland Destination Marketing Organizations (MDMO), I am writing to express our *support* for Senate Bill 730, Income Tax - Credit for Travel, Hospitality, and Entertainment Expenses. Senate Bill 730 allows for an individual to claim a credit against the State income tax for certain travel, hospitality, and entertainment expenses. These tourism related expenses must be incurred by the individual during taxable years 2021 and 2022.

The Tourism Promotion Act of 2008 dedicated \$2.5 million in grant funding for the 23 counties, Baltimore City, and Ocean City. Each year the Maryland Destination Marketing Organizations' continue to leverage state, local, and private partnership funds to promote visitor spending in Maryland through direct and in-direct marketing efforts.

I respectfully request a *favorable* report of Senate Bill 730, which continues to show your dedicated support to the tourism industry. Thank you for your kind consideration and attention to this legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Greg Pigguts

Greg Pizzuto, Chair

Maryland Destination Marketing Organizations