

March 5, 2021

Delegate Dereck E. Davis
Chair, Economic Matters Committee
Maryland House of Delegates
Room 231, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB1154 - Labor and Employment – Economic Stabilization Act -Alterations

Position: **SUPPORT W/AMENDMENTS**

Dear Chairman Davis, Vice Chair Dumais and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of our 500-member businesses, of which more than 50 are restaurants and hotels in Montgomery County, this letter is in **Support of HB1154 - Labor and Employment – Economic Stabilization Act - Alterations – with an amendment.**

This bill establishes that an employee may not be counted in the determination of a reduction in operations under specified circumstances including if the employer offers to transfer the employee to certain other sites of employment. It alters the persons to whom an employer is required to provide certain notice of a reduction in operations, altering the information required to be included in a certain notice of a reduction in operations.

It further clarifies that employers must have at least 50 employees in the State to be required to provide notice under the Act; permanent closures occur when the employer has no intent to restore operations at the time of the reduction in employment, and a reduction in operations includes a relocation only when it reduces the total number of employees by at least 25% or 15 employees, whichever is greater.

Although we support this legislation, **we ask that the addition of a reference to a pandemic as one of the situations where the new law would not apply.**

We ask you to please **vote FAVORABLE and include the above referenced Amendment on HB1154.** Thank you for your consideration of our remarks.

Sincerely,



Allie Williams
President & CEO