



## HOUSE BILL 1084

### Catastrophic Health Emergencies - Immunity From Civil Liability

March 3, 2021

**Position: Support**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

The *Restaurant Association of Maryland* supports House Bill 1084 and the liability protection it provides to the foodservice industry and to other Maryland businesses for claims related to catastrophic health emergencies.

Like many other business sectors, the foodservice industry has long been concerned about such liability exposure. Because Congress failed to pass liability protection for businesses, it's critical that the Maryland General Assembly pass legislation to protect our businesses from the threat of opportunistic lawsuits. We also appreciate that this bill establishes a clear and convincing evidence standard.

For these reasons, we support this legislation and request a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melvin R. Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is followed by a long horizontal line.

Melvin R. Thompson  
Senior Vice President  
Government Affairs and Public Policy