MICHELE GUYTON Legislative District 42B Baltimore County

Ways and Means Committee

Early Childhood Subcommittee

Education Subcommittee



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## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

March 17, 2022

## FAVORABLE – HB 1388 – Winery and Vineyard Economic Development Grant Program

Dear Madame Chair and Members of the Appropriations Committee,

I am writing to respectfully request a favorable report on HB 1388 - the Winery and Vineyard Economic Development Grant Program.

This program is proposed as a replacement for the Winery Income Tax Credit program which expired last year. This bill will provide grants to wineries and vineyards for capital expenses and improvements to existing operations or for the establishment of a new winery.

This legislation not only invests in our Maryland wineries and vineyards, which has the effect of creating new jobs and supporting business within our state, but also promotes the preservation of open space and agriculture.

The fund has an annual \$1m limit and wineries can receive up to 25% of the total cost of their capital project through a grant from this program.

I respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 1388.

Sincerely,

Delegate Klichele Eugta

Delegate Michele Guyton D42B