



ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

The Board of County Commissioners

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February 18, 2022

Guy J. Guzzone, Chairman
Senate Budget & Taxation Committee
Senate Miller Building, 3 West
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB622 – Income Tax – Credit for Travel, Hospitality, and Entertainment

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Senate Budget & Taxation Committee:

Allegany County Government is writing in support of SB622, which will provide an income tax credit to Marylanders who vacation 50 miles or more from their place of residency in the state of Maryland.

Tourism is the third largest employer in Allegany County, Maryland, supporting over 3,000 jobs, and generates \$160 million in visitor spending and \$47 million in tourism tax revenues.

As you know, tourism has been the hardest hit industry as a result of travel restrictions, shut downs, and consumers' reluctance to travel. The recovery for the tourism industry is anticipated to be at least 8 to 24 months. This bill has the opportunity to provide Marylanders with the incentive to explore their own state, keeping tax dollars in Maryland. It is vital now more than ever to support our tourism and hospitality businesses.

Please vote favorable on SB622 to support the recovery of the tourism industry in Maryland.

Sincerely,

Jacob C. Shade
President