



City of
Salisbury
Jacob R. Day, Mayor

21 February 2022

Committee: Economic Matters

Testimony on: HB 550 – Alcoholic Beverages - Manufacturer's Licenses and Off-Site Permits - Sunset Extension

Position: Favorable

Dear Members of the Economic Matters Committee,

As you consider the merits of **HB 550**, I ask that you **support** this impactful legislation and vote to give **HB 550** a **Favorable** Committee report.

The City of Salisbury supports HB 550, which will extend the sunset clause for provisions relating to alcoholic beverages manufacturer's licenses and off-site permits. This bill is essential as it will support small businesses that are still working to recover from the detrimental financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Thousands of hardworking Marylanders from across our state are employed within the alcohol manufacturing industry. As the pandemic began to alter how we live and work, many Maryland breweries, wineries, and distilleries were quick to adapt in order to remain operational and to keep their dedicated workforce gainfully employed. HB 550 is both simple and straightforward. By granting a six-month extension to the privileges codified through HB 1232 and SB 821 last Session, Maryland breweries, wineries, and distilleries will have time to help ensure a more seamless transition as they take measures to safely and responsibly resume on-premise operations.

I ask for your **support** of this legislation which will enable Maryland businesses to prosper.

Respectfully,

Jacob R. Day
Mayor