



City of
Salisbury
Jacob R. Day, Mayor

04 March 2022

Committee: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Testimony on: SB 698 – Alcoholic Beverages – Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing and Promotion

Position: Favorable

Dear Members of the Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee,

As you consider the merits of **SB 698**, I ask that you **support** this impactful legislation and vote to give **SB 698** a **Favorable** Committee report.


The City of Salisbury supports SB 698, which will establish the Advisory Commission on Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing within the Department of Commerce. This bill is important as it will establish the Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing Promotion Fund; this critical fund will provide grants to non-profits and government agencies to promote Maryland breweries, wineries, and distilleries.

The Maryland alcohol manufacturing industry employs thousands of Marylanders in every corner of our state. If enacted, the grants awarded to non-profit organizations through the Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing Promotion Fund will attract new visitors from near and far to the 253 breweries, wineries, and distilleries located across Maryland. In addition to supporting small businesses by helping to provide increased visibility, these funds will promote public education efforts and will also be used to promote the growth of agricultural products used in the manufacturing process to create Maryland beer, wine, and spirits.

Breweries, wineries, and distilleries across Maryland continue to serve as an invaluable asset to our vibrant tourism industry as they help to bolster both state and local economies. Supporting this industry through public education, research, and outreach efforts will make our state an even more welcoming place for these businesses to grow and experience success.

I ask for your **support** of this impactful legislation.

Respectfully,



Jacob R. Day
Mayor