

Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing Associations - Writ

Uploaded by: Brad Rifkin

Position: FAV



**MWA, BAM & MDG
SUPPORT FOR HB854/SB698**

BILL SUMMARY:

1. Expands the existing “Wine and Grape Promotion Fund” to create the “Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing Promotion Fund” to incorporate the Maryland Brewing Industry and the Maryland Distilling Industry.
2. Expands the existing “Governors Commission on Wine and Grape Growing” to create the “Advisory Commission on Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing” to incorporate the Maryland Brewing Industry and the Maryland Distilling Industry.
3. Shifts both the Fund and the Commission from the Department of Agriculture over to the Department of Commerce.
4. The Fund is filled and replenished annually with the excise tax collected from Maryland alcohol manufacturers (consistent with how the existing Wine and Grape Promotion Fund is funded by the excise tax collected from Maryland wineries).
5. The Fund will be utilized for grants to non-profits and government agencies in order to:
 - ✓ Foster the creation and expansion of state breweries, distilleries, and wineries;
 - ✓ Attract new visitors to state breweries, distilleries, and wineries;
 - ✓ Encourage and create incentives for special events to promote state breweries, distilleries, and wineries;
 - ✓ Educate the public about alcohol manufacturing in the state, especially the history of the industry;
 - ✓ Conduct research on, develop incentives for, and promote the growth of state agricultural products used in state manufactured beer, wine, and spirits; or
 - ✓ Support the expansion of minority ownership and participation in the operation of state breweries, distilleries, and wineries.

RATIONALE: The Maryland alcohol manufacturing industry has been – and continues to be – an incredible asset to the state and local economies. Over the last three decades we have seen our industry go from fledgling to thriving. Now consisting of 253 breweries, distillers, and wineries throughout Maryland, these small Maryland businesses employ 2,558 Marylanders and indirectly support approximately 31,500 jobs and \$909.7 million in economic activity.

HB854/SB698 is a measure that has been long overdue. By expanding the existing Wine and Grape Promotion Fund to incorporate the breweries and distilleries in a newly established “Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing Promotion Fund”, the state can now put an emphasis on promoting this unique manufacturing industry that also invests heavily in value-add agriculture. Additionally, by shifting the Fund and the Commission over to the Department of Commerce is a prudent path forward given the Department’s expertise in marketing and promoting Maryland businesses – go to along with their focus on tourism.

No different than our neighboring states of Virginia and Pennsylvania – which have both made significant financial commitments to promote their in-state manufacturing industry – we believe this Fund will continue to enhance, stabilize, and ultimately grow Maryland’s alcohol manufacturing industry in any number of ways now and in the future. **While this will not repair the devastating impact of COVID-19 on these small Maryland manufacturing businesses, it certainly provides a vital step for the industry recovery as we attempt to lay the foundation for the next decade for the industry.**

We thank you in advance for your consideration and respectfully request a Favorable Report on HB854/SB698.

Sincerely,

Kimberly T. Johnson
President of MWA
Philosophy Winery

Brett Snyder
President of BAM
Waredaca Brewing

Brian Treacy
President of MDG
Sagamore Spirit

Mayor Day SB 698 FAV Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Jacob Day

Position: FAV



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

SB 698 - Alcoholic Beverages - Maryland Alcohol Ma

Uploaded by: Justin Hayes

Position: FAV



Peter Franchot
Comptroller

TESTIMONY OF COMPTROLLER PETER FRANCHOT

Support – Senate Bill 698 - Alcoholic Beverages - Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing and Promotion

Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

March 4, 2022

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Committee, it is my pleasure to provide testimony in support of **Senate Bill 698 – Alcoholic Beverages - Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing and Promotion**. I would like to thank Senator Zucker for sponsoring this important legislation, and the Committee for providing the opportunity for my testimony to be heard.

Senate Bill 698 establishes the Advisory Commission on Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing (ACMAM) and the Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing Promotion Fund (MAMPF). The fund would utilize a portion of certain alcohol tax revenues to help promote locally-produced products. Grants from the fund would be made available to government and nonprofit organizations to promote Maryland’s breweries, wineries, and distilleries.

Once passed, this legislation will allocate funds for competitive grants for agriculture, research, and tourism, positively impacting Maryland farmers, maltsters, brewers, vintners, distillers and fermentation science programs like that at the University of Maryland. Senate Bill 698 will act as a significant catalyst to put Maryland’s alcohol producers on par with neighbors in Pennsylvania, Virginia and New York – where similar programs are already in place - propelling our local economies forward and stimulating job creation.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a favorable report for Senate Bill 698. Thank you for your time and consideration.

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Uploaded by: Senator Craig Zucker

Position: FWA

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Budget and Taxation Committee
Chair, Capital Budget Subcommittee

Chair, Senate Democratic Caucus

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Senator Craig J. Zucker
Senate Bill - 698 - Alcoholic Beverages - Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing and Promotion
Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
March 4th, 2022
1:00pm
Position: SUPPORT

Good afternoon Chairman Pinsky, Vice Chairman Kagan, and distinguished members of the committee. It is my pleasure to testify today in **support of Senate Bill - 698 - Alcoholic Beverages - Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing and Promotion.**

Senate Bill 698 establishes the Advisory Commission on Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing (ACMAM) and the Maryland Alcohol Manufacturing Promotion Fund (MAMPF) in the Department of Commerce. This legislation addresses the existing commission and simply expands it.

This legislation promotes the expansion of minority ownership, small business marketing, and tourism both in and out of state. The purpose of this legislation is to catch up to where other neighboring states, like Virginia and Pennsylvania, are with drawing in revenue and tourism from their state breweries, distilleries, and wineries.

For these reasons, I urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 698, as amended. Thank you for your kind consideration.