



March 9, 2022

The Honorable Vanessa Atterbeary, Chairwoman
House Ways & Means Committee

Re: House Bill 1273 – Income Tax - Credit for Travel, Hospitality, and Entertainment Expenses

Position: *Support*

Chairwoman Atterbeary and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Destination Marketing Organizations (MDMO), I am writing to express our *support* for House Bill 1273, Income Tax - Credit for Travel, Hospitality, and Entertainment Expenses. House Bill 1273 allows for an individual to claim a credit against the State income tax for certain travel, hospitality, and entertainment expenses. These tourism related expenses must be incurred by the individual during taxable years 2022 and 2023. As leisure travel for Marylanders are getting back to pre-pandemic levels, now is as important as ever to encourage travel within Maryland.

The Tourism Promotion Act of 2008 dedicated \$2.5 million in grant funding for the 23 counties, Baltimore City, and Ocean City. Each year the Maryland Destination Marketing Organizations continue to leverage state, local, and private partnership funds to promote visitor spending in Maryland through direct and in-direct marketing efforts.

I respectfully request a *favorable* report of House Bill 1273, which continues to show your dedicated support to the tourism industry. Thank you for your kind consideration and attention to this legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kristen Goller", written in a cursive style.

Kristen Goller, Chair
Maryland Destination Marketing Organizations