



House Bill 40

**Places of Public Accommodation and Public Buildings –
Gender-Inclusive Signage**

February 8, 2023

Position: INFO

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Economic Matters Committee:

The *Restaurant Association of Maryland* has worked with the sponsors of this legislation to address our concerns. As a result, this legislation includes a warning for a first violation, allows at least 30 days for compliance between an initial violation warning and the second violation fine, clarifies allowable signage, and includes grandfathering language for signage in use before October 1, 2023.

For these reasons, we have no opposition to this legislation and sincerely appreciate that the sponsors worked with us to address our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Melvin R. Thompson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Melvin R. Thompson
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs and Public Policy