



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Good Afternoon Honorable Delegates,

It is an honor to be here. I am Chesapeake Beach Mayor Pat Mahoney asking you all to give HB556 a favorable report with amendment.

My proposed amendment is to allow municipalities the provision for local municipal opt-out of cannabis dispensaries within its town limits.

While the good citizens of Maryland approved legalization of recreational cannabis, it is not a good fit for every municipality in the State.

We have many cute little towns within our state that take pride in their small-town charm, our “Mayberrys in Maryland”. Recreational cannabis should not be as accessible as buying a 6 pack of beer. Raising children is difficult enough. A cannabis dispensary next to the ice cream store and barbershop sends the wrong message to our youth.

Please allow municipalities to protect and maintain our small-town charm and amend HB556 to provide for local municipal opt-out of cannabis dispensaries within its town limits.

Sincerely,

Mayor Patrick J. Mahoney

Chesapeake Beach