



CAROLINE COUNTY  
*you belong here*  
CAROLINE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OFFICE

JAMES TRAVIS BREEDING, PRESIDENT  
LARRY C. PORTER, VICE PRESIDENT  
NORMAN FRANKLIN BARTZ, III., COMMISSIONER  
109 Market Street, Room 123  
Denton, Maryland 21629

**House Bill 258**

Queen Anne's County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Residency Requirement

Position: **SUPPORT W/ AMENDMENTS**

Date: February 20, 2023

To: Economic Matters

The Honorable C.T. Wilson, Chair  
Economic Matters Committee  
6 Bladen Street, Room 231  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Wilson and Members of the Economic Matters Committee:

The Caroline County Commissioners **SUPPORT** HB 258, Queen Anne's County– Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Residency Requirement, with amendments.

The Caroline County Commissioners request that Caroline County be added onto this legislation so that Caroline's alcoholic beverages licenses requirements reflect those of the State's. The current law requires at least one license applicant to have lived in the county at the time of application. This can be a significant hurdle as business owners must find a willing resident to serve as the primary license holder, which usually requires a previous relationship and a certain level of trust. This results in someone who is paid an annual fee to serve as the resident agent on the license and has little, if anything, to do with the operations of the establishment.

The Board of Commissioners believe that this change will allow Caroline County to attract more businesses to the region, thus providing a greater economic benefit to our County by creating jobs and generating revenue.

The Caroline County Commissioners support HB258 with the proposed amendments (HB0285-683724-01 & HB0258-903727-01). With this, we respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 258.

Sincerely,

J. Travis Breeding  
President  
Caroline County Commissioners