

SB431_WCBOCC_FAV.2.3.23.pdf

Uploaded by: Dawn Marcus

Position: FAV

John F. Barr, *President*
Jeffrey A. Cline, *Vice President*



Derek Harvey
Wayne K. Keefer
Randall E. Wagner

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND**

February 3, 2023

Senator Melony Griffith, Chair
Finance Committee
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 431; Alcoholic Beverages-Class 9 Limited Distillery License-Self
Distribution: SUPPORT

Dear Senator Griffith:

By a vote of 5-0, the Board of County Commissioners of Washington County unanimously supports Senate Bill 431. The purpose of SB 431 is to authorize a holder of a Class 9 limited distillery license to sell and deliver alcoholic beverages manufactured under the license, in bulk, to persons within and outside the State of Maryland authorized to acquire them. SB 431 further repeals the prohibition against a holder of a Class 9 limited distillery license apply for or possessing a wholesaler's license.

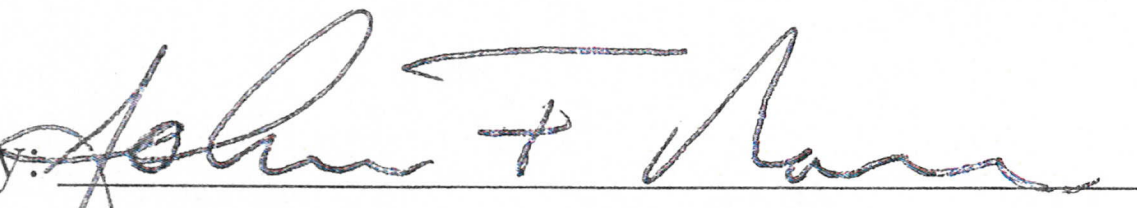
Under the current law, a holder of a Class 9 limited distillery license must sell their product to a licensed wholesaler who then sells the product to the retailers. In the case of a Class 9 licensee in Washington County, this results in the product being transported to Baltimore City to the wholesaler, and then transported back out to Washington County for purchase by the retailer. The proposed changes to the Class 9 Limited Distillery License allow the Class 9 licensee to sell directly to a licensed retailer. The provisions of SB 431 would alleviate the additional costs and environmental impact associated with the duplicative and unnecessary transportation of the licensee's product. SB 431 creates benefits to both the licensee and the environment and infrastructure within the State of Maryland.

For these reasons, the Board of County Commissioners urges the Committee to approve SB 431.

Senator Melony Griffith., Chair
Finance Committee
February 3, 2023
Page 2

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: 
John F. Barr, President

cc (via email): Senator Paul D. Corderman
Senator Mike McKay

SB 431 Sen Corderman Testimony.pdf

Uploaded by: Paul Corderman

Position: FAV

PAUL D. CORDERMAN
Legislative District 2
Frederick and Washington Counties

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Capital Budget

Education, Business and Administration



James Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street, Room 403
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3903 · 301-858-3903
800-492-7122 Ext. 3903
Paul.Corderman@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 24, 2023

Senate Finance Committee
Chairwoman Melony Griffith
Vice Chair Katherine Klausmeier
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Testimony in Support of Senate Bill SB 431 – Alcoholic Beverages – Class 9 Limited Distillery License – Self-Distribution

Chairwoman Griffith, Vice Chair Klausmeier, & Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

Maryland is home to breweries, wineries, and distilleries that each bring economic development to our communities and improve the overall quality of life that our citizens enjoy. It is important that we do our part in the Maryland General Assembly to help encourage growth of these businesses and remove unnecessary regulations on the small business owners that operate such establishments. The amended version of SB 431 would simply permit the holder of a Class 9 Distilleries to possess a Class 8 Wholesaler License and directly distribute the product that they manufacture, which would increase efficiency in distribution and bring Class 9 Distilleries in line with similar distribution guidelines for the other Distilleries in the state.

This bill has unanimous support from the Washington County Board of County Commissioners and the Washington County Delegation. Thank you for your consideration and I respectfully ask for a favorable report on SB 431.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Paul D. Corderman".

Paul D. Corderman
District 2 – Washington & Frederick Counties

SB 431 Wash Co Commissioners LOS.pdf

Uploaded by: Paul Corderman

Position: FAV

John F. Barr, *President*
Jeffrey A. Cline, *Vice President*



Derek Harvey
Wayne K. Keefer
Randall E. Wagner

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND**

February 3, 2023

Senator Melony Griffith, Chair
Finance Committee
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

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Distribution: SUPPORT

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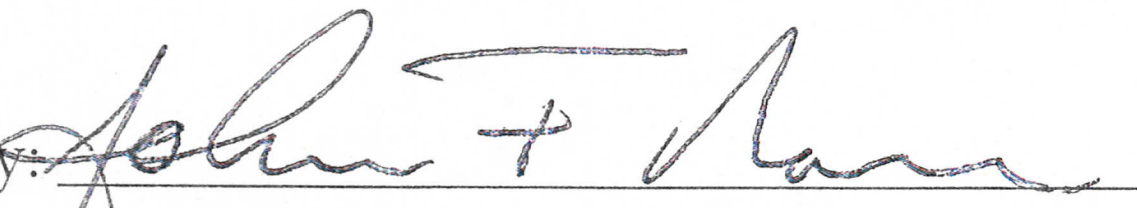
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Senator Melony Griffith., Chair
Finance Committee
February 3, 2023
Page 2

Sincerely,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF WASHINGTON COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: 
John F. Barr, President

cc (via email): Senator Paul D. Corderman
Senator Mike McKay

SB 431 Wash Co Delegation LOS.pdf

Uploaded by: Paul Corderman

Position: FAV

DELEGATE WILLIAM J. WIVELL
CHAIR
SENATOR MIKE W. MCKAY
VICE-CHAIR



SENATOR PAUL D. CORDERMAN

DELEGATE TERRY BAKER
DELEGATE BROOKE GROSSMAN
DELEGATE WILLIAM VALENTINE

THE MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
WASHINGTON COUNTY DELEGATION

February 9th, 2023

The Honorable Melony Griffith
Miller Senate Office 3 East
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairwoman Griffith,

The Washington County Delegation voted unanimously to support "SB0431 (HB0565) Alcoholic Beverages - Class 9 Limited Distillery License - Self-Distribution". We respectfully request your support of this bill.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me by email at William.Wivell@house.state.md.us, or by phone at 410-841-3447.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Wivell".

William Wivell, Chair
Washington County Delegation

SB0431 FWA.docx.pdf

Uploaded by: Bob Douglas

Position: FWA

LICENSED BEVERAGE DISTRIBUTORS OF MARYLAND, INC.

Leadership in Industry Cooperation

446 Park Creek Road

Pasadena, Maryland 21122

February 23, 2023

SB0431 –
FAVORABLE WITH
AMENDMENTS

Members

**BREAKTHRU BEVERAGE DISTRIBUTORS
REPUBLIC NATIONAL DISTRIBUTING
COMPANY, LLC**

SB0431 - Favorable with Amendments
Senate Finance Committee
Madam Chair, Vice Chair and Committee Members,

The Licensed Beverage Distributors of Maryland ask for a favorable report on an amended SB 0431 because it permits self-delivery by a Class 9 Distiller within the regulatory scheme of the Maryland alcoholic beverage law. With Maryland's 3-tier regulatory system, Maryland has protected consumers from unfair pricing, contaminated beverages and discrimination for nearly 90 years by separating the manufacturing, wholesale distribution and consumer sales operations to create a successful check and balance system. This amended bill recognizes the effectiveness of the current regulatory system.

Very truly yours,

Joel Polichene, Republic National Distributing Company
Jeff Scarry, Breakthru Beverage Distributors (formerly Reliable Churchill LLP)

SB_431_SGWS_Barnhart_Fav with Amendments.pdf

Uploaded by: Randy Barnhart

Position: FWA



SOUTHERN GLAZER'S WINE AND SPIRITS

16 Camelot Drive
Manchester, NH 03104

603-540-2829

Randy Barnhart
RBarnhart@sgws.com

southernglazers.com

February 20, 2023

Economic Matters Committee

**Testimony in opposition of House Bill 565
Alcoholic Beverages - Class 9 Limited Distillery License - Self-Distribution**

Mr. Chairman, Vice Chair and Members:

Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits of Maryland is a local wholesaler, and we will be negatively impacted by HB 565 and we ask for an unfavorable report on HB 565.

The state's beverage alcohol business is built around the three-tier structure that protects consumers from fraud and counterfeit products while ensuring an orderly marketplace. The three-tier structure also permits efficient tax collection through the wholesale tier.

HB 565 would allow retailers to purchase directly from suppliers and would expose the state marketplace and consumers to fraud and counterfeit, as well as result in compliance burdens on the state.

This bill proposes to create a carveout that on the surface appears to be minor but, would undermine current market and regulatory practices across the entire state of Maryland.

What we are asking the legislature for today is to not pass this legislation but allow the industry to work together to find a market solution rather than a carveout so everyone, including our craft partners, continues to benefit from the efficient, safe, and truly competitive beverage alcohol marketplace.

Thank you for your time and I respectfully request an unfavorable report on HB 565.

Thank you,

Randy Barnhart
Vice President Government Relations
Southern Glazer's Wine and Spirits