PAUL D. CORDERMAN Legislative District 2 Frederick and Washington Counties

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Capital Budget

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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,

Paul D. Corderman

District 2 – Washington & Frederick Counties