

**Favorable
Alcoholic Beverages - License Application- Residency Requirements**

Tushar Vadadoriya
JB Liquors
5842 Silver Hill Road,
District Heights, MD 20747

I am writing to express my strong support for the legislative amendment regarding Alcoholic Beverages, specifically the changes proposed in HB124. This bill represents a significant step forward in providing fair and equitable opportunities for permanent legal residents in the state's alcoholic beverage industry.

As an engaged member of our community Asian American Retailer Association I understand the importance of fostering an inclusive economy. Immigrants are a vital part of our state's entrepreneurial landscape, yet they often face barriers in sectors like the liquor store market. By allowing permanent legal residents to hold an alcoholic beverage license, HB124 opens doors for these community members to contribute more significantly to our economy.

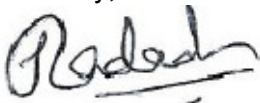
The liquor store industry, with its substantial annual sales, presents an untapped opportunity for immigrant entrepreneurs. Not only does this bill enable them to participate more fully in our economy, but it also helps to expand our state's tax base. The entrepreneurial spirit and diverse perspectives that immigrants bring are invaluable for the growth and innovation of our business community.

In addition, the bill responsibly addresses concerns about compliance and regulation. The requirement for applications to contain detailed information, including residency, age, birthplace, and descriptions of the proposed business location, ensures that all license holders are held to the same high standards, thereby maintaining community safety and integrity.

Furthermore, this bill aligns with the broader goal of integrating immigrants into our state's economic system. Immigrants are already a significant portion of our labor force, contributing immensely to our economy. In 2021, immigrant households earned a total income of \$1.9 trillion and paid over \$500 billion in taxes nationally. In Maryland, immigrants comprise about 15% of the population, with many being naturalized U.S. citizens and representing about 20 percent of the state's labor force.

Therefore, I am fully in support of this legislation. This bill not only represents an opportunity for economic growth but also signifies our commitment to diversity and inclusion in business ownership. It's a step towards creating a more vibrant, dynamic, and equitable economy for all members of our community.

Sincerely,



Tushar Vadadoriya.