

Re: my strong oppose to bill HB0847.

I and my family have been living in Maryland since last 15 years. We always enjoying shopping in grocery stores and supercenters with our children under 9 years aged.

- 1) We do not want our kids be introduced with alcohol before their legal age to consume. Kids are our future, we don't want to lock them up in the house and go for grocery. Neither we want to split family by having one parent take care kids at home and other one go for groceries. Let families enjoy the shopping in supercenters together.
- 2) Moreover, current practices in independent liquor store is that they don't allow under age kids in their stores without their parents. If they see under age alone in their stores, store clerks and manager do question them, ask them to leave or don't sell them. Independent stores are enforcing the right practice which supercenter will not be able to enforce as under age are allowed in supercenters freely.

Hence, If weed can't be sold in grocery stores, neither alcohol be sold in supermarket. For the same reason, I'd like **alcohol NOT TO BE SOLD in grocery stores**. It's a very little inconvenience but has benefits like supporting small businesses which keeps our money in our community instead of the massive grocery store chains and their corporations.

Smruti Patel

Proud resident of Greater Baltimore Maryland