



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
ST. MARY'S COUNTY DELEGATION

February 14, 2024

The Honorable C.T. Wilson
Chair, House Economic Matters Committee
Room 231, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

HB651 – St. Mary's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Beer, Wine, and Liquor Tasting Permits

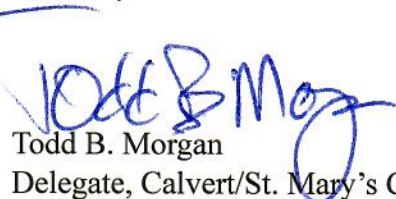
Chair Wilson, Vice-Chair Crosby and Esteemed Members of the Committee:

The purpose of this bill is to establish a new alcohol tasting permit in St. Mary's County. Currently, St. Mary's County has a Beer and Wine Tasting Permit for Class A licenses. This bill creates a new permit which allows retailers to offer samples of liquor products in addition to beer and wine, limited to the equivalent of one standard drink per customer.

Establishing the new license will benefit both retailers and consumers in St. Mary's County. Retailers will be better able market new and existing liquor products, especially ones produced by local distillers, and hopeful increase customer sales. Consumers will be able to explore a wider variety of products without the obligation to purchase and may find a new local favorite.

In closing, the creation of this new permit in St. Mary's County will benefit consumers, retailers, and Maryland distillers Thank you for your consideration. I respectfully request a favorable report.

Sincerely,



Todd B. Morgan
Delegate, Calvert/St. Mary's Counties (29C)