



**MARYLAND STATE
LICENSED BEVERAGE ASSOCIATION**

150 E Main Street, Suite 104, Westminster, MD 21157

TO: The Honorable Pam Beidle, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Alonzo T. Washington

FROM: J. Steven Wise
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
Danna L. Kauffman
Andrew G. Vetter

DATE: February 23, 2024

RE: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT** – Senate Bill 456 – *Alcoholic Beverages – Retail Delivery – Local Delivery Service Permit*

The Maryland State Licensed Beverage Association (MSLBA), which consists of approximately 800 Maryland businesses holding alcoholic beverage licenses (restaurants, bars, taverns and package stores), **supports with amendment** Senate Bill 456.

Senate Bill 456 would create a permit that can be obtained by a delivery service that contracts with a licensed retailer. The permit would allow the service to make deliveries on behalf of the licensed retailer. In 2023, MSLBA had numerous issues with this legislation but during the interim worked with the bill sponsors and representatives of Door Dash to create a better structure for such a permit. The changes made include allowing local liquor boards to determine whether they even want to allow such deliveries. Second, the bill restricts deliveries to within the jurisdiction that issues the permit, so that the territory of delivery is the same as if the licensed retailer were making the delivery using their own employees, which is allowed under current law. Finally, the bill ensures that alcohol sales are made by the licensed retailer and not by the delivery service.

An amendment has also been agreed to that will provide the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission (ATCC) with some authority to regulate delivery service permit holders should it be necessary. Because the ATCC has domain over alcohol transportation and over trade practices, which prohibit disparate treatment among retailers, MSLBA believes this additional authority is appropriate.

With these amendments, MSLBA believes that its principal concerns have been addressed.

For more information call:

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