



## Ocean City, Maryland Chamber of Commerce

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### TESTIMONY OFFERED ON BEHALF OF THE GREATER OCEAN CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

#### IN OPPOSITION OF:

#### **SB0452 – Courts – Prohibited Liability Agreements – Recreational Facilities**

#### Before:

House Judiciary Committee

Hearing: 3/27/24 at 1:00 PM

The Greater Ocean City Chamber of Commerce, representing over 700 regional businesses and job creators, strongly **OPPOSES** *House Bill SB0452 – Courts – Prohibited Liability Agreements – Recreational Facilities*.

This legislation establishes that a provision in a contract or agreement relating to the use of a recreational facility that purports to limit the recreational facility's liability, or release the recreational facility from or indemnify or hold harmless the recreational facility against liability, for injury caused by or resulting from the negligence or other wrongful acts of the recreational facility or its agents or employees is void and unenforceable under certain circumstances.

If enacted, **SB0452** would negatively impact the small businesses that run these recreational facilities due to increased insurance rates and lead to greater liability and cost. The Ocean City area is tourism-driven, and this legislation is directly in conflict with businesses in our region to continue to provide experiences for visitors to our region.

The Greater Ocean City Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests an **UNFAVORABLE REPORT on SB0452**. Please feel free to contact the Chamber directly at 410-213-0144, or Dennis F. Rasmussen, [dfr@rasmussengrp.net](mailto:dfr@rasmussengrp.net) at 410-303-4658 should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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