REGINA T. BOYCE
Legislative District 43A
Baltimore City

Vice Chair
Environment and
Transportation Committee

Subcommittees

Housing and Real Property

Chair Natural Resources, Agriculture and Open Space



Annapolis Office

The Maryland House of Delegates 6 Bladen Street, Room 251
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
410-841-3476 · 301-858-3476
800-492-7122 Ext. 3476
Fax 410-841-3295 · 301-858-3295
Regina.Boyce@house.state.md.us

## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES Annapolis, Maryland 21401

February 17, 2025

## RE: Testimony in Support of **HB346** - **Baltimore City** - **Alcoholic Beverages** - **43rd Alcoholic Beverages District** - **Class B-D-7 Licenses**

HB346 authorizes the sale of Class B-D-7 beer, wine, and liquor licenses for specific restaurant and business areas of the Remington district in Baltimore City. The requirements for this bill include that the sale of other items besides packaged goods are at least 51% of the applicant's total daily receipts and the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the Greater Remington Improvement Association, and the applicant does not create a separate packaged goods store.

The bill is supported by the Remington neighborhood and community, as well as the Greater Remington Improvement Association. HB346 will provide solutions for two current challenges: vacant commercial storefronts and small business revenue. Currently, there are vacant storefronts and vibrant small businesses in the Remington area that need more support. The bill is one of many measures the community is using to reduce vacancies and add new business opportunities, while at the same time supporting already existing businesses.

In 2016, a movement began in Baltimore City to redevelop vacant properties, rowhomes, back into homes or into commercial storefronts through <u>Transform Baltimore</u>, a City zoning ordinance that replaced the decades-old zoning code. Transform Baltimore promotes 21st century redevelopment practices to address existing buildings, enhance mixed-use projects and transit-oriented development, and create high density walkable communities. HB346 would build on this work by allowing businesses more creative amenities within the community.

HB346 creates opportunities for already-existing neighborhood businesses to flourish, encourages investment from developers, and incentivizes the surrounding community to patronize new spaces. Thank you for your time and this opportunity to present and urge your support.

Sincerely,

Delegate Regina T. Boyce

Rogero P. Boyce