

Senate Bill 562

State Designations - State Cocktail - Original Maryland Orange Crush

March 13, 2025

Position: **SUPPORT**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee:

The Restaurant Association of Maryland strongly supports Senate Bill 562, which would designate the *Original Maryland Orange Crush* as the State cocktail.

Maryland's restaurants take pride in promoting local specialties to our customers, including blue crab, rockfish, oysters, Smith Island cake, and many other local favorites that our longtime customers and visitors savor. We support designating the *Original Maryland Orange Crush* as the State cocktail because it is a well-known Maryland favorite and originated in Ocean City. This designation will help to promote this refreshing beverage along with the Maryland wines, beer, and distilled products that many of our restaurants and bars also proudly offer to customers.

For these reasons, we respectfully request a favorable report. Cheers!

Sincerely,



Melvin R. Thompson
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs and Public Policy