

# **HB569 - SB839 - Dorchester County - Alcoholic Beve**

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Position: FAV

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY**  
COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
501 Court Lane, P.O. Box 26  
Cambridge, Maryland 21613  
(410) 228-1700

GEORGE L. PFEFFER, JR., PRESIDENT

MIKE DETMER, VICE PRESIDENT

ROB KRAMER, JR.

WILLIAM V. NICHOLS

RICKY C. TRAVERS



JERRY JONES  
COUNTY MANAGER

MACLEOD LAW GROUP LLC  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

February 7, 2025

The Honorable C.T Wilson, Delegate  
Economic Matters Committee  
231 Taylor House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Letter of Support – HB569 Dorchester County - Alcoholic Beverages – Beer, Wine, and Liquor Tasting License


Dear Chairman Wilson and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support for House Bill 569, entitled “Dorchester County – Beer, Wine, and Liquor Tasting License” for the purpose of authorizing certain Class A license holders Dorchester County to conduct tastings of liquor under certain circumstances, in addition to tastings of beer or wine; limiting the quantity of liquor allowed per individual for tastings; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Dorchester County.

House Bill 569 seeks to expand current tasting license provisions by including liquor and spirits, which are currently not permitted under existing regulations. Dorchester County businesses and community members have expressed strong interest in allowing the offering of spirits for tastings, aligning with what is already permitted for beer and wine. This amendment will provide greater opportunities for local businesses to enhance their offerings while ensuring compliance with all state regulations. Other jurisdictions in Maryland currently allow similar tasting privileges, and this bill brings Dorchester County in line with these established practices. By making this change, Dorchester County will further support its business community, increase tourism appeal, and create new economic opportunities within the county. This amendment ensures that local establishments remain competitive and able to meet consumer demand while maintaining responsible oversight. The Dorchester County Council believes this legislation is a necessary step toward supporting local businesses and fostering economic growth. We urge you to look favorably upon this bill and support its passage.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter of support. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Council’s Office at (410) 228-1700.

Sincerely,

  
George L. Pfeffer, Jr.  
President

cc: The Honorable Johnny Mautz, Senator  
The Honorable Christopher T. Adams, Delegate  
The Honorable Sheree Sample-Hughes, Delegate  
The Honorable Tom Hutchinson, Delegate

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COUNTY ATTORNEY

February 7, 2025

The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Senator  
Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Letter of Support – SB839 Dorchester County - Alcoholic Beverages – Beer, Wine, and Liquor Tasting License

Dear Chairman Beidle and Committee Members,

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support for Senate Bill 839, entitled “Dorchester County – Beer, Wine, and Liquor Tasting License” for the purpose of authorizing certain Class A license holders Dorchester County to conduct tastings of liquor under certain circumstances, in addition to tastings of beer or wine; limiting the quantity of liquor allowed per individual for tastings; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Dorchester County.

Senate Bill 839 seeks to expand current tasting license provisions by including liquor and spirits, which are currently not permitted under existing regulations. Dorchester County businesses and community members have expressed strong interest in allowing the offering of spirits for tastings, aligning with what is already permitted for beer and wine. This amendment will provide greater opportunities for local businesses to enhance their offerings while ensuring compliance with all state regulations. Other jurisdictions in Maryland currently allow similar tasting privileges, and this bill brings Dorchester County in line with these established practices. By making this change, Dorchester County will further support its business community, increase tourism appeal, and create new economic opportunities within the county. This amendment ensures that local establishments remain competitive and able to meet consumer demand while maintaining responsible oversight. The Dorchester County Council believes this legislation is a necessary step toward supporting local businesses and fostering economic growth. We urge you to look favorably upon this bill and support its passage.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this letter of support. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact the Council’s Office at (410) 228-1700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'George L. Pfeffer, Jr.' with a stylized flourish at the end.

George L. Pfeffer, Jr.  
President

cc: The Honorable Johnny Mautz, Senator  
The Honorable Christopher T. Adams, Delegate  
The Honorable Sheree Sample-Hughes, Delegate  
The Honorable Tom Hutchinson, Delegate