HB566 - SB869 - Dorchester County - Alcoholic Beve Uploaded by: irene barnes

Position: FAV

COUNTY COUNCIL OF DORCHESTER COUNTY

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

> JERRY JONES COUNTY MANAGER

MACLEOD LAW GROUP LLC COUNTY ATTORNEY

GEORGE L. PFEFFER, JR., PRESIDENT

MIKE DETMER, VICE PRESIDENT

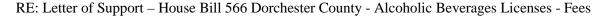
ROB KRAMER, JR.

WILLIAM V. NICHOLS

RICKY C. TRAVERS

February 11, 2025

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



Dear Chairman Wilson and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support of House Bill 566, entitled "Dorchester County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Fees" for the purpose of altering licensing fees for certain alcoholic beverages licenses in Dorchester County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Dorchester County to charge an application or transfer fee under certain circumstances; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages license, application, and transfer fees in Dorchester County.

House Bill 566 is critical in securing adequate funding for the Dorchester County Board of License Commissioners, enabling essential improvements in legal services, staffing, and advertising. Dorchester County has not raised its fees in over a decade, and despite this, our fees remain competitive—and in some cases, considerably lower—than those of neighboring jurisdictions. The proposed adjustments will not only sustain the operations of the Liquor Board but will also enhance the education and support available to license holders.

Maintaining a well-funded regulatory framework is essential for promoting compliance and fostering a business-friendly environment. Even with these fee adjustments, Dorchester County will continue to be an attractive location for both existing and prospective businesses. By ensuring sufficient resources to effectively administer and oversee licensing, this bill will support the county's economic stability and responsible growth. The Dorchester County Council believes that this legislation is an essential step toward sustaining a fair and balanced licensing system. Therefore, 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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February 11, 2025

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

RE: Letter of Support - Senate Bill 869 Dorchester County - Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Fees

Dear Chairman Beidle and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Dorchester County Council, I respectfully offer its support of Senate Bill 869, entitled "Dorchester County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Fees" for the purpose of altering licensing fees for certain alcoholic beverages licenses in Dorchester County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Dorchester County to charge an application or transfer fee under certain circumstances; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages license, application, and transfer fees in Dorchester County.

Senate Bill 869 is critical in securing adequate funding for the Dorchester County Board of License Commissioners, enabling essential improvements in legal services, staffing, and advertising. Dorchester County has not raised its fees in over a decade, and despite this, our fees remain competitive—and in some cases, considerably lower—than those of neighboring jurisdictions. The proposed adjustments will not only sustain the operations of the Liquor Board but will also enhance the education and support available to license holders.

Maintaining a well-funded regulatory framework is essential for promoting compliance and fostering a business-friendly environment. Even with these fee adjustments, Dorchester County will continue to be an attractive location for both existing and prospective businesses. By ensuring sufficient resources to effectively administer and oversee licensing, this bill will support the county's economic stability and responsible growth. The Dorchester County Council believes that this legislation is an essential step toward sustaining a fair and balanced licensing system. Therefore, 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.

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