

THE BOARD OF GARRETT COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

203 South Fourth Street - Courthouse - Room 207 Oakland, Maryland 21550

www.garrettcounty.md.gov countycommissioners@garrettcounty.md.gov
301-334-8970 301-895-3188 FAX 301-334-5000

Board of Commissioners

Paul C. Edwards
Ryan S. Savage
S. Larry Tichnell

County Administrator

Kevin G. Null

County Attorney

Gorman E. Getty III

February 24, 2025

Senator Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
130 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: HOUSE BILL 1278 - GARRETT COUNTY - HOTEL RENTAL TAX - ALTERATIONS

Dear Delegate Atterbeary:

On behalf of the Board of County Commissioners I wish to express our strong support for House Bill 1278, "Garrett County - Hotel Rental Tax - Alterations."

House Bill 1278 proposes essential changes that will expand the definition of "hotel" to include transient vacation rental units and require short-term rental platforms to perform certain duties related to the collection and remittance of the county hotel rental tax. These changes will enable Garrett County to collect Accommodation Tax on properties rented through on-line rental platforms such as Airbnb and VRBO and ensure that all accommodations contributing to the local tourism industry are fairly taxed, providing a more level playing field for traditional hotels and short-term rentals alike.

We urge you and your colleagues to support House Bill 1278. Thank you for your continued support.

On behalf of the Board,



Paul C. Edwards
Chairman

cc: Delegate Jim Hinebaugh
Senator Mike McKay