

Testimony in Support of HB 1243

Andrew Dill, Co-Founder

Liquid Intrusion Brewing Company (LIBCO)

Thank you Chair Guzzone and Vice Chair Rosapepe. My name is Andrew Dill, and I am the co-founder of Liquid Intrusion Brewing Company, Prince George's County's first Black-owned brewery.

We operate as a contract brewery, meaning we rent space out of another brewery to produce our beer and get our product to market entirely through distribution across Maryland, Washington DC, and Delaware. We have no brick and mortar to call home. For over three years, we have been diligently searching for a permanent location right here in Prince George's County, because this is where we belong.

Black-owned breweries represent less than one percent of the brewing industry nationally. For Prince George's County to have one is significant. For Prince George's County to lose one because the tax environment made survival impossible would be a failure this community cannot afford.

Breweries like Denizens Brewing Company, a woman-owned brewery, and Streetcar 82, one of only two deaf-owned and operated breweries in the entire country, are mentors to us. The challenges they face will inevitably affect us too. Our county is home to some truly unique breweries and countless other small businesses and manufacturers that deserve your support.

HB 1243 gives small manufacturers like us a real chance to survive and grow here. Without it, we will be forced to look elsewhere, or for some, possibly close. With it, we stay, we hire, and we build something this county can be proud of.

Please vote yes on HB 1243. Thank you.