

HB1303

March 2, 2026

TO: House Economic Matters Committee

FROM: [Name, Neighborhood / County]

RE: Alcoholic Beverages - Class A License - Retail Establishments (Alcoholic Beverages Modernization Act of 2026)

POSITION: Support

Chair Valderrama, Vice Chair Charkoudian, and Members of the Committee:

I write in support of HB1303 as a Maryland resident who recently moved from a state where purchasing beer and wine at the grocery store is simply part of everyday life. That firsthand experience makes Maryland's current restriction feel all the more unnecessary.

Back home, picking up a bottle of wine with dinner ingredients or grabbing a six-pack during the weekly grocery run was unremarkable — just part of a single, efficient errand. When I moved to Maryland, I was genuinely surprised to learn that was not an option here. That extra trip to a separate retailer costs time, fuel, and the kind of mental load that busy families already carry too much of.

I can say from experience that grocery beer and wine sales do not undermine public safety, eliminate small businesses, or change the character of a community. In the 46 states where this is already permitted, it is simply a convenience that residents take for granted. Maryland families deserve the same.

HB1303 is a practical, overdue reform. I respectfully request a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Rebella
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