

March 2nd, 2026

**TO:** House Economic Matters Committee

**FROM:** Liam Davis, Greentown, Baltimore City

**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:

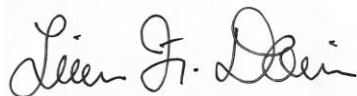
I am writing to express my support for HB1303, the Alcoholic Beverages Modernization Act of 2026.

Grocery stores are more than retail establishments—they are major local employers that serve as foundations for healthy communities. They provide stable jobs for thousands of Maryland residents, including young people entering the workforce, working parents supporting their families, and long-time employees building careers in retail management and operations.

When a grocery store succeeds, the surrounding community benefits. Employees earn wages that are spent locally, nearby businesses see increased foot traffic, and residents maintain convenient access to fresh food. However, grocery retailers operate on extremely narrow margins and face rising costs in labor, transportation, and utilities. Allowing beer and wine sales would provide a responsible additional revenue stream that helps sustain these jobs and keep stores open.

Supporting HB1303 is a vote to strengthen Maryland's retail workforce and preserve the economic stability that grocery stores bring to neighborhoods across our state. I respectfully request a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liam J. Davis". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Liam Davis

345 South Lehigh Street