

B. K. MILLER MEATS AND LIQUORS, INC.
9024 OLD BRANCH AVENUE
CLINTON, MARYLAND 20735

PHONE 301-868-2500

BKMEATSLIQUOR@AOL.COM

WWW.BKMILLERS.COM

MARCH 1, 2026

ECONOMICS MATTERS COMMITTEE
MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
6 BLADEN STREET
ANNAPOLIS MD, 21401

DEAR MADAME CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE,

I AM BLAISE MILLER, PRESIDENT OF BK MILLER MEATS & LIQUORS IN CLINTON, MD. OUR "STORE" HAS BEEN ON THE SAME CORNER IN CLINTON FOR 113 YEARS. IT IS A 4TH GENERATION SMALL FAMILY BUSINESS. WE CURRENTLY HAVE 51 EMPLOYEES, ALL WHO CALL MARYLAND THEIR HOME. ME, AND THOSE 50 GREAT EMPLOYEES OPPOSE HB1303.

I HAVE INVESTED IN MY BUSINESS WITH THE LAWS AS THEY ARE. ANY CHANGE THAT WOULD ALLOW GROCERY CHAINS OR CHAIN CONVENIENCE STORES THE PRIVILEGE OF SELLING BEER AND WINE, WOULD HAVE A HUGE IMPACT ON MY CHANCE FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS. BEER AND WINE ACCOUNT FOR APPROXIMATELY 40% OF MY ALCOHOL SALES. IT IS WELL DOCUMENTED THAT ALL ALCOHOL SALES NATIONWIDE ARE DECLINING. THE LEGALIZATION OF CANNABIS AND THE YOUNGER GENERATION'S LIFESTYLE HAS LED TO THIS DECLINE. THE PROVERBIAL "PIE" IS SHRINKING

I SUPPORT COMPETITION IN A FREE MARKET, BUT THE COMPETITION MUST BE FAIR. SUPPLIERS HAVE ESTABLISHED UNFAIR PRICING MODELS FOR A SELECT FEW CHAINS. THE FTC CURRENTLY HAS A CASE AGAINST SOUTHERN GLAZERS (ONE OF MY LARGEST DISTRIBUTORS) FOR GIVING WALMART A PRICING ADVANTAGE.

SMALL FAMILY BUSINESSES LIKE MINE HAVE A GOOD COMMUNITY PRESENCE AS WELL. THIS WEEK BK MILLER'S WILL PRESENT \$15,000.00 CHECKS TO THE CLINTON VFD AND FREDERICK DOUGLASS HIGH SCHOOL IN UPPER MARLBORO.

FINALLY, MY SON COLT IS 38 YEARS OLD AND WANTS TO CONTINUE THE BUSINESS HIS GREAT GRANDAD STARTED. PLEASE PROTECT HIM AND OTHER SMALL BUSINESSES BY OPPOSING THIS BILL.

RESPECTFULLY,
BK (BLAISE) MILLER

