

March 2nd, 2026

TO: House Economic Matters Committee

FROM: Mario Marzette

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

POSITION: Support

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

Convenience matters. When residents can complete their grocery shopping in a single trip, they save valuable time that can be spent with family, at work, or in their communities. Maryland's current prohibition creates unnecessary inconvenience and no longer reflects the realities of modern life.

As someone who recently moved to Maryland, I was shocked that this antiquated law was still in effect. I have enjoyed most of my adult life being able to purchase beer and wine at grocery stores and would very much like to be able to do so here in Maryland as well.

In addition, allowing beer and wine sales in grocery stores would not eliminate independent liquor stores, which can continue to distinguish themselves through selection and service. Instead, it would simply give consumers more flexibility and reduce redundant errands.

This commonsense reform prioritizes efficiency, consumer choice, and practicality which is why I am formally requesting a favorable report on

Sincerely,

Mario Marzette

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