

TESTIMONY FOR AN “UNFAVORABLE” POSITION OF HB1303 & HB0415

ECONOMIC MATTER REFERENCE HB1303

To: Delegate Kriselda Valderrama

From: Alfred “John” Greenwell Sr.

CC: Lorig Charkoudian, Christopher Adams, Marion Amprey, Steven Arentz, Harry Bhandari, Adrian Boafu, Brian Crosby, Diana Fennell, Seth Howard, Andre Johnson, Jesses Pippy, Andrew Pruski, Lilly Qi, Pam Queen, Denise Roberts, Mike Rodgers, April Rose, Veronica Turner, William Wivel,

Date: 02/25/2026

Re: HB 1303 Beverage Moderation Act & HB 0415

TESTIMONY:

Any repeal or modifications of the 1978 alcohol law of Maryland will inflict a tremendous financial burden, unbalance the states commerce, and wreak havoc on the regulating rules or processes in place to protect society and the control of alcohol sales.

The writers of the 1978 law knew they had to create legislation that could control alcohol sales, protect our citizen, provide fairness, all at an affordable expense to the state.

The proposed HB1303 will cause the state a tremendous financial burden of millions of dollars in the payroll for the hiring agents and administrators to enforce regulation and cover the expanded number of retailers.

The proposed law will allow easier access to alcohol, which experts claim is the main cause in prohibited sales. State agents will have the overwhelming and frustrating responsibility of preventing underage and barred people from purchasing alcohol due to an increase.

Underage sale in states with big box retailers have a higher violation rate of 36-38% to states of privatize license store of 14%

HB1303 will cause an increase of unemployment and reduce the number of small businesses, all because of the buying power, this will be creating an unbalance in the state’s commerce, an area the 1978 law makers knew they needed to protect to insure a fair and balanced commerce throughout the state.