

February 18th, 2026

TO: Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Corinne Dallain Scheitler

RE: Senate Bill 75 - Alcoholic Beverages - Class A License - Food Retailers

POSITION: Support

Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 75 - Alcoholic Beverages - Class A License - Food Retailers (SB0075) and to respectfully ask for your favorable consideration.

I recently relocated to Maryland and have been proud to call this state my new home. However, one adjustment has genuinely surprised me: the inability to purchase beer and wine at a grocery store. In every place I have previously lived, this was simply part of a routine shopping trip — nothing more remarkable than picking up milk or bread.

The practical inconvenience is real. Working families and busy individuals already have limited time. Requiring a separate stop at a liquor store to complete what should be a single errand is a friction that most other states have long since eliminated. As someone new to Maryland, it is one of the few aspects of daily life here that feels like a step backward rather than forward.

I also want to acknowledge the concern that this change could harm independent liquor stores. Based on my experience in other states where grocery wine and beer sales are permitted, those businesses continue to thrive by offering something grocery stores cannot — expertise, curated selections, and personalized service. The customers who value that experience do not disappear simply because a grocery store carries a six-pack.

I urge the Committee to issue a favorable report on SB0075. This is a commonsense modernization that would make Maryland a more welcoming and practical place to live — something that matters a great deal to those of us who have just arrived.

Thank you,
Corinne Dallain Scheitler
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