



Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association  
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TO: Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Mid-Atlantic Petroleum Distributors Association

DATE: February 20, 2026

RE: **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT – SENATE BILL 75** – Alcoholic Beverages – Class A License – Food Retailers

On behalf of Maryland’s convenience store marketers and energy distributors, MAPDA urges the committee to issue a favorable committee report on SB75 with the amendment described below.

Simply, this legislation would allow a “food retailer” as defined in the bill to obtain a Class A license to sell beer and/or wine.

As the legislature continues considering the idea of expanding the ability of retailers like convenience stores to sell beer and wine, our industry only asks for the opportunity to compete for these licenses. Our stores serve thousands of customers each day to meet their daily needs – fuel, coffee, snacks, fresh food, and other items including many stores which meet the needs of SNAP recipients.

Allowing these retailers to sell beer and wine, if they choose, is a simple matter of fairness. Many of our stores serve as the primary grocer in their communities. Passing SB75 allows them to add a new source of revenue so they can expand their offerings, provide better service, and raise wages and benefits of their employees.

Should the committee choose to move forward with the legislation, we ask the square footage requirement on Page 3, Line 3 be amended to 2,000 square feet. This important change would allow for legacy locations to compete for a Class A license. The other requirements – food product offerings, SNAP program participation, and distancing requirements – would remain.

Thank you for your consideration. We urge the Senate Finance Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT COMMITTEE REPORT on SB75.**

**Feeding and fueling the economy through gas, coffee, food, heating oil and propane.**

MAPDA is an association of convenience stores and energy distributors in Maryland, Delaware & the District of Columbia.