



February 27, 2026

Kirk Wenner
Cow's Cones
21614 National Pike
Boonsboro, MD 21713

My name is Kirk Wenner, and I am the owner of Cow's Cones, a small business located in Washington County, Maryland. I writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 714, Washington County – Mobile Food Service Facilities and Semipermanent Food Service Facilities – Toilet and Lavatory Facilities.

Last season, I was required to remove all outdoor seating at my established ice cream trailer location, where I have operated successfully for many years. There was considerable discussion regarding whether my operation should be classified as a mobile or semi-permanent. However, regardless of classification, I was informed that I could not provide outdoor tables unless I installed permanent toilet and lavatory facilities.

As a result, my customers were extremely disappointed. Families who traditionally visited Cow's Cones to enjoy ice cream, play games and spend quality time together were forced to either eat in their vehicles or stop visiting altogether. The loss of outdoor seating significantly impacted the customer experience and posed a serious threat to my business' ability to financially survive. We were fortunate to endure the season due to strong community support, but the hardship was undeniable. (The County also granted a variance late in the season. We were allowed to reinstall our outdoor seating if we maintained portable lavatory and toilet facilities).

The requirement to install permanent toilet and lavatory facilities presents an undue financial burden that my small business simply cannot afford. I know I am not alone in the challenge. Other small businesses in our county have been similarly affected, and without legislative change, some may ultimately be forced to close doors.

From a public perspective, it is difficult to understand why a business that safely provides food to the community cannot offer outdoor seating. To most residents, this is a matter of simple common sense. I respectfully agree.

I commend Senator Corderman for introducing Senate Bill 714 and urge you to support this important measure for the sake of small business and the communities WE serve!

Sincerely,

Kirk Wenner, owner Cow's Cones

Kirk Wenner
240-285-2846