

February 28, 2018

The Honorable Dereck E. Davis Economic Matters Committee Room 231, House Office Building Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: HB 0518 – Alcoholic Beverages - Reform on Tap Act of 2018 – Support

Dear Delegate Davis:

HB 0518, repealing certain restrictions on serving or selling beer by a holder of a Class 5 brewery license or Class 7 micro-brewery license; requiring an on-site consumption permit to be granted under certain circumstances; providing that the hours of sale for on-site consumption at Class 5 breweries are those set by a certain license; repealing certain limits on micro-breweries, farm breweries, and limited beer wholesalers; making a certain licensed beer manufacturer exempt from the Beer Franchise Fair Dealing Act; etc.

Agriculture is Carroll County's largest business sector, breweries at their heart are agricultural and HB 0518 will help drive growth. Removing limits of production and sales increases competition and encourages investment. Agro tourism is a national movement and Carroll County wishes to be a part of it. HB 0518 will allow breweries to thrive throughout the State which is good for business and tourism.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 600 members, supports this legislation and requests that you give this bill a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Mike McMullin

President

Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Delegate Haven Shoemaker

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Senator Justin Ready

Carroll County Chamber of Commerce ● 9 East Main Street ● Westminster, MD 21157 Phone: 410-848-9050 ● Fax: 410-876-1023 ● www.carrollcountychamber.org