



February 23, 2018

Members of the Maryland General Assembly
State House
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Members of the General Assembly:

We write to express our strong support for House Bill 518, the *Reform on Tap Act of 2018*, and urge the General Assembly's passage of this legislation this session.

As elected leaders of Maryland's county governments, we recognize the important and valuable contributions that local craft breweries make to our communities and to our economies. These family-owned, local businesses play a vital role in the revitalization of economically-disadvantaged areas and support other industries that provide well-paying jobs for thousands of Marylanders.

We believe it is crucial for the legislature to adopt the proposed reforms in House Bill 518. The legislation removes arbitrary limits and burdensome regulations and requirements that have made it more difficult for craft brewers to do business in our state. By passing House Bill 518, the Reform on Tap Act of 2018, the legislature will send a loud and clear message to craft brewers – and indeed, all small businesses – that Maryland supports and encourages their growth and success.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jacob C. Shade
President, Board of County Commissioners
Allegany County

William R. Valentine
Member, Board of County Commissioners
Allegany County

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Vice Chair, County Council
Anne Arundel County

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