



Bill #	SB0118
Position	SUPPORT

January 16, 2020

Dear Mr. Chair, Madam Vice Chair and Members of the Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee—

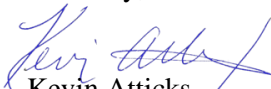
I am writing to support SB118 “Land Use - Alcohol Production and Agricultural Alcohol Production,” legislation that creates a model definition of in state land use law.

1. This legislation has no bearing on alcohol law or the authorities assigned to alcohol production facilities (breweries, wineries, distilleries, etc.); it simply defines—in the context of land use and planning—what it means to be an alcohol producer.
2. This legislation also has no bearing on any individual jurisdiction; it creates guidance—but no mandate—to jurisdictions as they prepare their own unique text amendments to allow these entities to operate within the jurisdictions’ borders.

The language is deemed necessary because the first definition from any county planning/zoning office is “can you point to a state definition we can refer to?” With the passage of this legislation, we can respond in the affirmative, and make local official’s efforts that much simpler as they move to support and grow the local craft alcohol producer industry.

On behalf of the Maryland Wineries Association, Maryland Distillers Guild and Brewers Association of Maryland, I urge a favorable report.

Sincerely,


Kevin Atticks
Founder & CEO

*Executive Director of the Maryland Wineries Association,
Maryland Distillers Guild and Brewers Association of Maryland*