



February 12, 2020

Distinguished members of the House Committee,

I am writing as one of the co-founders of McClintock Distilling, located in Frederick, Maryland to support HB 0156.

Our distillery is a growing business that utilizes wheat, rye and corn to produce internationally award-winning spirits. Last year we used almost 100 tons of grains in our operation with over 50 tons of that being rye. We work with several local farms and source about 25% of our grains from within Maryland. The remainder of our grains are purchased from farms in Kentucky, Ohio and Canada.

Although we have been able to start sourcing our grains locally, this bill would help tremendously to increase the amount of grain we would be able to get in-state. Both the wheat and rye varieties we use are suitable cover crops and not only would it help us increase our production, but would increase revenue for local farms and keep the money in state. As an organic-certified distillery we usually pay between 6-10 times the price of standard commodity pricing and can help many smaller family-farms to stay viable for the future.

Our company was founded on B Corp model with a focus not just on profits, but also on environmental and social responsibility. We use 100 percent renewable energy at our distillery, designed and built a recycling cooling water system that has reduced our wastewater by 250,000 gallons annually and upcycle most of our food waste back into local farms. This bill would help us buy more grains locally and further reduce the carbon footprint of trucking tons of grains across North America.

For the reasons stated above, McClintock Distilling fully supports HB 0156.

Sincerely,

Braeden Bumpers

Co-founder, Distiller

McClintock Distilling

Frederick, MD