



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Dennis R. Schrader, Acting Secretary

February 19, 2021

The Honorable Dereck E. Davis
Chair, Economic Matters
Rom 231 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

RE: House Bill 996 – Alcoholic Beverages – Class A Licenses – Retail Grocery Establishments (Healthy Food Accountability Act of 2021) – Letter of Information with Amendment

Dear Chair Davis and Committee Members:

The Maryland Department of Health (MDH) is submitting this letter of information with amendment for House Bill (HB) 996 – Alcoholic Beverages – Class A Licenses – Retail Grocery Establishments (Healthy Food Accountability Act of 2021).

HB 996 creates a Class A beer or beer and wine license for retail establishments that offer for sale food products. MDH offers the attached amendment to clarify that while the sale of food products is a prerequisite for obtaining a Class A beer or beer and wine license under the proposed legislation, the sale of the food products is not covered under the Class A license and the establishment would still be subject to all applicable licensing requirements for the sale of food products under Article Health-General Title 21.

I hope this information is useful. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact me at (410) 260-3190 or webster.ye@maryland.gov or Emily Berg, Assistant Director, Office of Governmental Affairs at the same number or emily.berg@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

Webster Ye
Assistant Secretary for Health Policy

Attachment:
Amendments to House Bill 996

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 996
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 5, after line 12, insert:

“(8) An establishment which offers for sale food products is also subject to all applicable food licensing provisions.”