



February 26, 2021

The Honorable Anne Kaiser, Chairwoman
House Ways & Means Committee

Re: House Bill 1176 – Income Tax - Credit for Travel, Hospitality, and Entertainment Expenses

Position: *Support*

Chairwoman Kaiser and Committee Members:

On behalf of the Maryland Destination Marketing Organizations (MDMO), I am writing to express our *support* for House Bill 1176, Income Tax - Credit for Travel, Hospitality, and Entertainment Expenses. House Bill 1176 allows for an individual to claim a credit against the State income tax for certain travel, hospitality, and entertainment expenses. These tourism related expenses must be incurred by the individual during taxable years 2021 and 2022.

The Tourism Promotion Act of 2008 dedicated \$2.5 million in grant funding for the 23 counties, Baltimore City, and Ocean City. Each year the Maryland Destination Marketing Organizations' continue to leverage state, local, and private partnership funds to promote visitor spending in Maryland through direct and in-direct marketing efforts.

I respectfully request a *favorable* report of House Bill 1176, which continues to show your dedicated support to the tourism industry. Thank you for your kind consideration and attention to this legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Pizzuto". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Greg Pizzuto, Chair
Maryland Destination Marketing Organizations