



**House Bill 242 -- Montgomery County – Alcoholic Beverages –
Consumption Only Marketplace Licenses MC 06–22
House Economic Matters Committee
February 21, 2022
Support**

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC), the voice of business in Metro Maryland, supports House Bill 242 -- *Montgomery County – Alcoholic Beverages – Consumption Only Marketplace Licenses MC 06–22*.

House Bill 242 authorizes the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners to issue a consumption only marketplace license to either the developer or management company of a commercial shopping center. The shopping center must: (1) encompass an area of at least 10 acres; (2) include at least one establishment for which a Class B license, Class BD–BWL license, Class D–BWL license, or Class H license has been issued; and (3) contain a designated outdoor area for the consumption of alcoholic beverages. House Bill 242 alters the distance that the license holder is authorized to allow the consumption of beer, wine, and liquor to include an area within 1,000 feet of the designated outdoor area, a change that will allow more dynamic usage of this enabling legislation.

MCCC asserts that this bill provides additional flexibility needed by property owners or management companies to create an enhanced experience for customers. It also increases the ability of the commercial real estate industry to offer differentiation of entertainment options to consumers and allows brick and mortar businesses to better compete with online retail options. The bill further ensures that patrons and Montgomery County's Alcohol and Beverage Services have confidence that patrons will be safe when consuming liquor, beer and wine that is sold within commercial shopping centers.

For these reasons, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce supports House Bill 242 and respectfully requests a favorable report.

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of our nearly 500 members, advocates for growth in business opportunities, strategic investment in infrastructure, and balanced tax reform to advance Metro Maryland as a regional, national, and global location for business success. Established in 1959, MCCC is an independent non-profit membership organization and a proud Montgomery County Green Certified Business.

*Brian Levine / Vice President of Government Affairs
Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce
51 Monroe Street / Suite 1800
Rockville, Maryland 20850
301-738-0015 / www.mcccmd.com*