

COMMISSIONERS FOR SOMERSET COUNTY

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COMMISSIONERS

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COUNTY ATTORNEY
KIRK G. SIMPKINS

February 20, 2024

Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair
Senate Finance Committee
3 East
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SB0537 – Cannabis – Licensee Locations – Restrictions- **Letter of Opposition**

Dear Chairwoman Beidle and Committee Members:

The Board of County Commissioners for Somerset County wish to express their opposition regarding Maryland Senate Bill 0537. Effectively this bill undermines the ability our county has to regulate cannabis as we believe is in the best interest for our county.

Our Planning Commission and Department of Technical and Community Services has done extensive research and conducted meetings over the past 5 months for the siting and regulation of cannabis in Somerset County, which was ultimately felt to be best located in our industrially zoned areas. It remains the opinion of the Planning Commission and Somerset County that cannabis is an industrial product and should be sited as such.

Passing this bill would defeat all of the work done by our county to regulate and control cannabis as we see best for our county.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Charles Laird', is written over a faint circular stamp.

Charles Laird
President

Cc: Senator Carozza