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March 4, 2025

Health and Government Operations Committee
240 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk and Committee Members:

Worcester County supports House Bill 1001, as it would make the Orange Crush Maryland's official state cocktail.

The Orange Crush originated in Worcester County in the fall of 1995 at Harborside Bar and Grill, one of Worcester County's iconic waterfront establishments. The cocktail, made with fresh-squeezed orange juice, quickly became a favorite and in the decades since has been duplicated incessantly throughout the state and region.

Despite the fact that Delaware last year declared the Orange Crush its official state cocktail, credit for the drink belongs in Maryland. We appreciate Del. Hartman's effort to set the record straight with this bill. We urge you to issue House Bill 1001 a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Theodore J. Elder
President