



## **HOUSE BILL 270**

### **Alcoholic Beverages – Licensed Restaurants – Extended Hours for Food Service**

**February 22, 2010**

**POSITION: Support**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Economic Matters Committee:

On behalf of the members of the *Restaurant Association of Maryland*, we support House Bill 270. This legislation would allow Class-B liquor licensees (restaurants) to remain open for food service only until 2:00 a.m.

This legislation would create a level playing field for Class-B licensees statewide who wish to continue serving food beyond midnight. Many licensees would likely take advantage of additional food service hours, especially on weekends, holidays, and during special events and festivals. Moreover, many of our chain restaurant members will welcome statewide uniformity with respect to this issue.

This is clearly a common-sense proposal with little to no negative effect. For these reasons, we support HB 270 and request a favorable report.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvin R. Thompson  
Senior Vice President  
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