

# GROW & FORTIFY

Ag Commission Update 6/13/18

Kelly Dudeck • Grow & Fortify

#### **GROW & FORTIFY MISSION**

To cultivate an environment where valueadded agricultural producers, operators and growers innovate and thrive.

#### WHAT IS VALUE-ADDED AGRICULTURE?

- Altering or processing a raw agricultural product in a way to increase its worth to the consumer, and in turn, bring more revenue to the farmer, producer or processor.
- While definitions vary, it is clear there are common characteristics associated with valueadded products:
  - physical changes to the product
  - Production
  - identity/marketing characterizations like certified organic or labeling products as local.

# STATE OF THE STATE: Craft Beverages

- **WINERIES**: More than 94 federal permits issued to date. Approximately 100 active wineries and wineries-in-planning. This currently includes meaderies and cideries.
- **BREWERIES**: More than 75 federal permits issued to date. Approximately 90 active breweries and breweries-in-planning. Of these, 12-15 are farm-based breweries. Also includes two cider producers
- DISTILLERIES: 22 federal permits issued to date. Approximately 20-25 active distilleries and distilleriesin-planning. These also include wineries/distilleries.



# WINERIES LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2018: Update

- New law passed requiring 51% of wine be produced using Maryland agricultural ingredients.
- Or the winery must own/operate/lease 20 acres of grapes (or fruit used in wine).
- Wineries have until 2022 to comply.

## **DISTILLERIES** LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2018: Update

Nothing passed. Here's what we hoped would pass:

#### Ability to serve cocktails

- As the law currently stands, distillers are permitted to offer samples of their products and sell bottles to go.
- But many spirits are best presented mixed with other non-alcoholic ingredients. Distillers in DC,VA and other neighboring jurisdictions are able to serve cocktails to their customers, and this would provide a new opportunity for local distilleries.

#### Off-Site Permit

- Bringing the Distillery Off-Site Permit on-par with the Winery Off-Site Permit, which:
- Allows a distillery to attend more off-site events (from 7 to 32);
- Allows a distillery to attend farmers markets;
- Does not change the sales or service authorized by the permit;
- Already requires that the licensee or employee managing the distillery's participation in the event is certified under a responsible alcohol service program.

## **BREWERIES** LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2018: Update

- HB 518 Alcoholic Beverages Reform on Tap Act of 2018 | Failed
- HB 1052 Alcoholic Beverages Class 5 Brewery License Alterations | Failed
- HBHB 1370/SB 956 Alcoholic Beverages Maryland Beer and Brewery Promotion Program –
  Establishment | Failed the House; Passed the Senate Unanimously
- HB I I 48/SB I 017 Alcoholic Beverages Class 5 Breweries On Premise Sales | Held in Committee
- HB 1015/SB 839 Alcoholic Beverages Class 7 Limited Beer Wholesaler's License Production and Distribution Limits | Held in Committee
- HB I 176/SB I 044 Alcoholic beverages Class 5 Breweries On Premise Consumption Hours of Operation | Held in Committee
- HB 1222/SB 1043 Alcoholic Beverages Beer Franchise Agreements Notice of Nonrenewal or Termination | Held in Committee
- HB 1369/SB 867 Alcoholic Beverages Breweries Limits on Production and On Premises Sales |
  Held in Committee

## **BREWERIES** LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2018: Update

- SB 406 Class 5 Breweries Sales of Beer for On-Premises Consumption | Failed, Withdrawn
- SB 609 Class 5 Breweries Hours of Sale for On-Premises | Failed, Withdrawn
- HB 357/SB 311—Alcoholic Beverages Manufacturer's License Fees Alteration | Failed
- HB 66 Sales and Use Tax Alcoholic Beverages Rate Reduction | Failed
- SB 577 Alcoholic Beverages Prohibited Acts Defense to Prosecution for Sale to Underage Individuals
  | Failed
- HB 1003 Alcoholic Beverages Licenses Issued by Different Local Licensing Boards to Single License
  Holder Authorized | Passed
- HB 1316 Task Force to Study State Alcohol Regulation, Enforcement, Safety, and Public Health | Passed

## **BREWERIES** LEGISLATIVE SESSION 2018: Update

#### **Purpose of Task Force**

In addition to examining the State agency (The Office of the Comptroller) currently regulating the State alcoholic beverage industry, the task force must review:

- Maryland alcohol laws in light of recent changes regarding alcohol production, distribution, and sale;
- The public health impact of alcohol in Maryland;
- The economic development and employment impact of alcohol in Maryland; and
- The enforcement of alcohol regulation and laws at the State and local levels, including regulatory systems in other states and the methods by which State and local enforcement agencies interact.

# **Other Legislative Updates**

#### **AGRITOURISM DEFINED!**

House Bill 252 establishes a model definition for agritourism in the Land Use article for county governments to adopt through their legislative process as a local ordinance, resolution, law or rule. The definition is not a mandate, but will serve as a reference in state law to help counties regulate their own agritourism activities.

Many thanks to MDA, MDP and the Governor's Office!

#### **INDUSTRIAL HEMP PASSED!**

A measure to allow Maryland farmers to grow industrial hemp if they do it in partnership with a university or state agency is now in place.

### **NEXT STEPS FOR HEMP?**

- Legislation passed.
- Stakeholders meeting was held.
- Fall workshop being developed.
- MDA working on regs.
- Grow & Fortify starting a coalition.



### WHAT ELSE ARE WE UP TO?

- Regulatory Matrix
- Value-Added Agriculture
  Economic Impact Study
- Grow & Fortify Summit 12/6



#### WHAT DOES YOUR SUMMER LOOK LIKE?

- 6/15 Preservation Maryland Summit
- 6/16 Drink Maryland Centreville
- 6/10 MD Wine Comp Presentation
- 6/23 Drink Maryland North Beach
- 7/11 LEAD MD Legislative Workshop
- 7/19 Buy Local Cookout

- 7/21 Cecil Wine Fest
- 7/27 Biodynamic Workshop @ Old West
- 8/7 BAM Ag Resource Field Day (Hops!)
- 8/18 MD Craft Beer Competition
- 8/25 Revive! Divine Food + Divine Beer
- Regional Meetings



# QUESTIONS?

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