

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Harford County Executive Glassman Eases Parking Lot Requirements to Facilitate Outdoor Dining

BEL AIR, Md., (May 28, 2020) - Harford County Executive Barry Glassman today signed an Executive Order temporarily waiving certain requirements to give restaurants additional space in their parking lots for outside dining. The action under Harford County's State of Emergency takes effect Friday, May 29 at 5 p.m. to coincide with Gov. Hogan's completion of Stage 1 under the Maryland Roadmap to Recovery.

"This action will make it easier for restaurants to offer outside dining, similar to my prior Executive Order facilitating outdoor retail sales," County Executive Glassman said. "As with each step in reopening, everyone must follow required safety precautions so we can continue moving forward together."

A copy of the Executive Order is attached



Harford County Executive Barry Glassman signing his Executive Order easing parking lot requirements to facilitate outdoor dining

EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-003

WHEREAS, On March 5, 2020, Maryland Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. proclaimed a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency for the entire State of Maryland pursuant to Title 14 of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, due to the impending threat and continuing impact of the contagious disease known as COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, On March 16, 2020, the Governor issued an executive order prohibiting all restaurants and bars from providing food or beverage for consumption on premises; and

WHEREAS, To promote and foster needed economic recovery in Harford County, I propose to permit expanded outdoor seating at restaurants, bars and breweries; and

WHEREAS, Outdoor seating at restaurants, bars and breweries is safer and less likely to lead to the spread of COVID-19 than indoor dining; and

WHEREAS, To facilitate and encourage additional outdoor seating areas at restaurants, bars and breweries to make these businesses safer to operate I propose temporarily suspending certain County Code laws.

Section 1. NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barry Glassman, County Executive, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter and laws of Harford County, Maryland, and by the Maryland Constitution and the laws of Maryland, including but not limited to the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland and the Local State of Emergency Plan, do hereby proclaim and order on this 28 day of May, 2020 that the state of emergency in Harford County is renewed and that in order to promote a safer environment for restaurants, bars and breweries and to foster economic development in the County, I order that the following provisions of the Harford County Code be temporarily waived, in part, under the terms of this Executive Order, and only to the extent necessary to effectuate this Order provided that all fire, life safety and American Disability Act and social distancing requirements are met:

- 1. Requirements for off- street parking to the extent necessary to provide additional outdoor seating space while maintaining sufficient parking for individuals visiting the establishment.
- 2. Requirements applicable to temporary uses.
- 3. Requirements regarding setbacks.
- 4. Requirements regarding seating capacity.
- 5. Requirements related to outdoor displays.
- 6. Requirements related to on premise signage.
- 7. Requirements related to outdoor storage.

Section 2. And Be It Further Ordered that the language of this Executive Order shall not be construed as a waiver of any requirement of a Harford County law or regulation unless specifically waived under this Order.

Section 3. And Be It Further Ordered that the language of this Executive Order shall not be construed as a waiver of any restriction under an executive order of the Governor, state law or regulation.

Section 4. And Be It Further Ordered that this Executive Order shall take effect on May 29, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

GIVEN Under My Hand and the Great Seal of Harford County, Maryland, this 28 day of , 2020.

Barry Glassman

Harford County Executive

ATTEST:

Billy Boniface

Director of Administration