

RESOLUTION NO. 1217-23

**A RESOLUTION REGARDING HARFORD COUNTY COUNCIL BILL NUMBER
23-034 DISTRIBUTION – HOTEL OCCUPANCY TAX REVENUE**

WHEREAS, the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners wish to voice its opposition to Harford County Bill Number 23-034 entitled Distribution – Hotel Occupancy Tax Revenue as introduced on November 7, 2023; and

WHEREAS, Harford County Council has introduced legislation which would repeal and reenact with amendments, Section 123-68 Distribution of Revenue, of Article VII, Hotel Occupancy Tax, of Chapter 123, Finance and Taxation, of the Harford County Code as amended; to require 50% of the hotel tax revenue collected from hotels in unincorporated areas of the County to be expended for certain purposes in the council district where the hotels are located; and generally relating to hotel occupancy tax and finance and taxation.

WHEREAS, the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners believes these changes could and likely will negatively impact funding available through the Harford County Tourism Funding Program to non-profits operating within and holding events within municipal limits; and

WHEREAS, the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners believes these changes could and likely will negatively impact funding available to Harford County’s destination management organization, Visit Harford, resulting in a negative impact to businesses located within municipal limits; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners that it does not support Harford County Bill 034-23 as introduced on November 7, 2023, and that it fully supports an amendment to the Bill that will reduce the required percentage of the hotel tax revenue collected from hotels in unincorporated areas of the County to be expended for certain purposes in the council district where the hotels are located from the proposed 50% to 25%, or an amendment that otherwise provides funding available to Visit

Harford and funding available through the Harford County Tourism Funding Program to non-profits operating within and holding events within municipal limits:

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Bel Air Board of Town Commissioners that this Resolution shall take effect on the date of its passage.

ENACTMENT:

EFFECTIVE:

AYES:

NAYS:

ABSENT:

Paula S. Etting, Chair

Board of Town Commissioners

Michael Krantz, Town Clerk