March 23, 2026

Submitted via Email

Chairwoman Pamela G. Beidle and Members of the Senate Finance Committee
Maryland General Assembly
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairwoman Beidle and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

The United States has one of the safest, most efficient, and affordable food systems in the world, and we support a nationwide approach to food ingredient safety that is grounded in science and provides consistency for industry. **House Bill 1004 would maintain one regulatory standard for the food industry while increasing state food safety oversight, and the undersigned organizations support the legislation as amended.**

Collectively, our organizations represent America's food, beverage, ingredient, agricultural, and retail industries. Our members source, manufacture, distribute, and sell safe and wholesome products across the United States.

The safety and quality of what we make and sell to our customers is of the highest importance, and House Bill 1004 ensures a uniform approach to food and color additive oversight while providing the state with supplemental authority to levy penalties should any noncompliant ingredients or additives be sold, delivered, held, or offered for sale in Maryland.

As the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) continues to review and take action to address food and color additives, the proposed legislation will allow the state to address products impacted by FDA's revocation of Red Dye 3 and brominated vegetable oil, as well as any supplemental ingredients that may be impacted by the agency in the future in response to the ongoing federal review of chemicals in the food supply.

House Bill 1004 allows food manufacturers, retailers, and distributors to continue to effectively leverage national supply chains to provide consumers in Maryland with a diverse assortment of safe food products in an aligned federal and state regulatory environment. **The undersigned organizations therefore express our support for House Bill 1004.**

Sincerely,

Maryland Retailers Alliance

American Bakers Association

Alliance for Chemical Distribution

FMI, The Food Industry Association

Food Ingredient Safety Coalition

Independent Bakers Association

International Dairy Foods Association

National Confectioners Association

North American Millers' Association