



June 2, 2020

Dear Representative Webber,

The Michigan Downtown Association (MDA) supports House Bill 5781 for we believe the ability to create social districts at the local level for on-premises alcohol sales is an important economic tool now and in the future. The authority to permit local governmental units the ability to address the issue will make our State and downtowns more competitive in attracting businesses, residents, and visitors. We believe HB 5781 will help in the development, redevelopment and continued improvement of Michigan communities and downtowns.

The Michigan Downtown Association is a statewide, non-profit organization that was founded in 1980. The mission of the organization is to strengthen downtowns across the state by providing resources, economic tools, education, and advocacy to downtown managers and stakeholders. Our nearly 200 members are cities, Downtown Development Authorities, townships, Chambers of Commerce, businesses, and individuals who understand strong downtowns are the key to the economic development and sustainability of our State.

Please contact the MDA if we can be of any assistance to you regarding HB 5781 or any matters directly affecting downtowns.

Sincerely,

Cristina Sheppard-Decius

Cristina Sheppard-Decius CMSM
Chairperson
Michigan Downtown Association

Molly LaLone

Molly LaLone
Chairperson
Michigan Downtown Association Legislative Committee