

ATCC

ALCOHOL TOBACCO AND
CANNABIS COMMISSION

State of Maryland

2026 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Hon. Wes Moore

GOVERNOR

Hon. Aruna K. Miller

LT. GOVERNOR

Jeffrey A. Kelly

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alan Silverstein

CHAIRMAN



Legislative Update

Foreword

This Legislative Update is intended to be a quick reference guide to the alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis bills passed during the 2026 Maryland General Assembly session. For each bill, you will find a summary and the full legislative text.

The first section covers statewide laws affecting Maryland's alcoholic beverages industry. The second section reviews local alcohol law changes, organized alphabetically by county or municipality. The final sections cover tobacco and cannabis laws, which apply statewide. Within each section, bills are listed by Senate Bill number first, followed by House Bill number.

Regulators, industry members, and the public can use the Update to find and review changes to Maryland laws affecting the commercial alcohol, tobacco, and cannabis industries in one place. However, it does not include all criminal, occupational, or public safety laws related to these products.

The bill summaries highlight the main changes made by each law. However, you should review the full bill text if you need detailed information about compliance requirements.

If you have questions about a law or this Legislative Update, contact the ATCC at **443-300-6990** or **atcc.info@maryland.gov**.



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2026 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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Alcoholic Beverages – License Fee Refund Requirements – Alterations

SB0013



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 3-108 and 4-113



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Expands alcoholic beverage license fee refund eligibility by replacing “armed forces” with “uniformed services,” covering additional national services such as the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and the Public Health Service.
- Similar amendments have been made throughout the Maryland Annotated Code in previous bills.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 863

(Senate Bill 13)

AN ACT concerning

Alcoholic Beverages – License Fee Refund Requirements – Alterations

FOR the purpose of altering certain alcoholic beverages license fee refund requirements to allow for certain members of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service to be eligible for a certain refund; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 3–108 and 4–113
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

3–108.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a license holder is not entitled to a refund of the unearned portion of the license fee.

(b) A refund shall be issued to a license holder on surrender of the license if:

(1) receivership or bankruptcy of the business entity on whose behalf the license was issued occurs and a license transfer is not requested, with the refund issued for the benefit of the creditors of the license holder;

(2) the license holder dies, with the refund issued for the benefit of the estate of the deceased license holder;

(3) the license holder volunteers for or has been called into the [armed forces of the United States] **UNIFORMED SERVICES** or the organized State militia;

(4) the license holder surrenders a license and obtains a new license of another class carrying a higher fee, with the refund deducted from the higher fee;



(5) the license holder, against whom charges are pending when the license is renewed, is found guilty and the license is revoked, with the refund issued to the license holder in an amount based on the date that the revocation becomes final;

(6) the issuance of a license by the Executive Director is reversed on judicial review and the operation of the establishment is prohibited, with the refund issued to the license holder in an amount based on the date that the refusal to grant the renewal becomes final; or

(7) the licensed premises is taken by the federal government, the State, or a municipality for public use.

4-113.

(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, a license holder is not entitled to a refund of the unearned portion of the license fee.

(b) A refund shall be issued to a license holder on surrender of the license if:

(1) receivership or bankruptcy of the business entity on whose behalf the license was issued occurs and a license transfer is not requested, with the refund issued for the benefit of the creditors of the license holder;

(2) the license holder dies, with the refund issued for the benefit of the estate of the deceased license holder;

(3) the license holder volunteers for or has been called into the [armed forces of the United States] **UNIFORMED SERVICES** or the organized State militia;

(4) the license holder surrenders a license and obtains a new license of another class carrying a higher fee, with the refund deducted from the higher fee;

(5) a license holder, against whom charges are pending when the license is renewed, is found guilty and the license is revoked, with the refund issued to the license holder in an amount based on the date that the revocation becomes final;

(6) the issuance of a license by a local licensing board is reversed on judicial review and the operation of the establishment is prohibited, with the refund issued to the license holder in an amount based on the date that the refusal to grant the renewal becomes final; or

(7) the licensed premises are taken by the federal government, the State, or a municipality for public use.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.



Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Class 3 Wineries and Class 4 Limited Wineries - Alterations

SB0803



STATUTES AFFECTED:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 1-101(bb), 2-205, 2-206(c)(1), (e)(2), (k), and 25-1612



EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Adds a second definition to “pomace brandy” as brandy distilled by a Class 4 limited winery from wine made with at least 51% Maryland-grown agricultural products that does not exceed 80 proof (or 40% abv.).
- Authorizes Class 3 wineries to acquire bulk wine directly from Class 4 limited wineries, and allows Class 4 limited wineries to sell and deliver bulk wine to them.
- Specifies that Class 4 limited wineries must report all distilled and bottled pomace brandy as a distilled spirit under Title 5 of the Tax – General Article.
- Silver Spring, MD only: Authorizes the Montgomery County Board of Liquor License Commissioners to issue a Class D beer, wine, and liquor license to a Class 3 winery producing no more than 20,000 gallons per year.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 862

(Senate Bill 803)

AN ACT concerning

**Alcoholic Beverages – Class 3 Wineries and Class 4 Limited Wineries – ~~Bulk~~
Wine and Pomace Brandy Alterations**

FOR the purpose of expanding the definition of “pomace brandy” authorized to be produced and sold by the holder of a Class 4 limited winery license; authorizing the holder of a Class 3 winery license to acquire bulk wine from the holder of a Class 4 limited winery license; authorizing the holder of a Class 4 limited winery license to sell and deliver bulk wine to the holder of a Class 3 winery license; clarifying that the holder of a Class 4 limited winery license must report all pomace brandy distilled and bottled by the holder as a distilled spirit for purposes of the alcoholic beverage tax; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Montgomery County to issue a Class D beer, wine, and liquor license to the holder of a Class 3 winery license under certain circumstances; and generally relating to Class 3 wineries and Class 4 limited wineries.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

Section 1–101(a) ~~and~~, 2–206(a), (b), and (e)(1), and 25–102

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

Section ~~2–205 and 2–206(c)(1)~~ 1–101(bb), 2–205, and 2–206(c)(1), (e)(2), and (k)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,~~

~~Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis~~

~~Section 2–206(b)~~

~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~

~~(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

BY adding to

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

Section 2–206(k) and 25–1612

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:



Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

1-101.

(a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated.

(bb) “Pomace brandy” means:

(1) brandy that is distilled from the pulpy residue of wine pressing, including the skins, pips, and stalks of grapes; OR

(2) A BRANDY, NOT EXCEEDING 80 PROOF, THAT IS DISTILLED BY A CLASS 4 LIMITED WINERY LICENSE FROM WINE PRODUCED UNDER THE CLASS 4 LIMITED WINERY LICENSE WITH INGREDIENTS THAT INCLUDE AT LEAST 51% MARYLAND-GROWN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

2-205.

(a) There is a Class 3 winery license.

(b) A license holder may:

(1) establish and operate a plant for fermenting and bottling wine at the location described in the license;

(2) import bulk wine from the holder of a nonresident dealer’s permit;

(3) **ACQUIRE BULK WINE FROM THE HOLDER OF A CLASS 4 LIMITED WINERY LICENSE;**

(4) sell and deliver wine to:

(i) a holder of a wholesaler’s license;

(ii) a holder of a permit that is authorized to acquire wine; and

(iii) a person outside the State that is authorized to acquire wine;

[(4)] (5) subject to subsection (c) of this section, sell at retail wine made at the plant from products grown in the State to an individual participating in a guided tour of the plant; and



Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

1–101.

(a) In this article the following words have the meanings indicated.

(bb) “Pomace brandy” means:

(1) brandy that is distilled from the pulpy residue of wine pressing, including the skins, pips, and stalks of grapes; OR

(2) A BRANDY, NOT EXCEEDING 80 PROOF, THAT IS DISTILLED BY A CLASS 4 LIMITED WINERY LICENSE FROM WINE PRODUCED UNDER THE CLASS 4 LIMITED WINERY LICENSE WITH INGREDIENTS THAT INCLUDE AT LEAST 51% MARYLAND–GROWN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS.

2–205.

(a) There is a Class 3 winery license.

(b) A license holder may:

(1) establish and operate a plant for fermenting and bottling wine at the location described in the license;

(2) import bulk wine from the holder of a nonresident dealer’s permit;

(3) **ACQUIRE BULK WINE FROM THE HOLDER OF A CLASS 4 LIMITED WINERY LICENSE;**

(4) sell and deliver wine to:

(i) a holder of a wholesaler’s license;

(ii) a holder of a permit that is authorized to acquire wine; and

(iii) a person outside the State that is authorized to acquire wine;

[(4)] (5) subject to subsection (c) of this section, sell at retail wine made at the plant from products grown in the State to an individual participating in a guided tour of the plant; and



- 1. ferment and bottle wine; and
- 2. distill and bottle pomace brandy; [and]
- (ii) sell and deliver the wine and pomace brandy to:
 - 1. a holder of a wholesaler’s license;
 - 2. a holder of a permit that is authorized to acquire wine or pomace brandy; or
 - 3. a person outside the State that is authorized to acquire wine or pomace brandy; AND

(III) SELL AND DELIVER BULK WINE TO THE HOLDER OF A CLASS 3 WINERY LICENSE.

(e) A license holder may:

(1) store on its licensed premises, in a segregated area approved by the Executive Director, the product of other Class 4 limited wineries to be used at Maryland Wineries Association promotional activities, provided records are maintained and reports filed regarding the storage under this item as may be required by the Executive Director;

(2) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (K) OF THIS SECTION, distill and bottle not more than 1,900 gallons of pomace brandy made from available Maryland agricultural products;

(K) ALL POMACE BRANDY DISTILLED AND BOTTLED BY THE LICENSE HOLDER SHALL BE REPORTED BY THE LICENSE HOLDER AS A DISTILLED SPIRIT IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 5 OF THE TAX – GENERAL ARTICLE.

[(k)] (L) The annual license fee:

- (1) shall be determined by the Executive Director; and
- (2) may not exceed \$200.

25-102.

This title applies only in Montgomery County.

25-1612.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO SILVER SPRING.



(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A CLASS D BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE TO THE HOLDER OF A CLASS 3 WINERY LICENSE THAT PRODUCES NOT MORE THAN 20,000 GALLONS OF WINE EACH YEAR.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Class 8 Farm Brewery Licenses

SB0807**STATUTES AFFECTED:** Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 1-405 and 2-210**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2026

SUMMARY

- Exempts Class 8 farm brewery licenses issued on or before July 1, 2015 from the prerequisite that the premises must comply with all zoning laws and ordinances to obtain the Class 8 license.
- Requires the licensed farm brewery to operate as an agribusiness that produces, showcases, prepares, and sells farm products, and to actively engage in agritourism by exposing the public to farming and value-added farming practices.
- Permits licensees to sell or serve food if they hold a food establishment license, use a licensed food truck or caterer, or serve cottage industry food prepared on the farm under § 21–330.1 of the Health – General Article.
- Authorizes license holders to host festivals, provide live music or other entertainment, and rent portions of the farm to the public or private groups for functions such as banquets, weddings, anniversary and birthday parties, fundraisers, and similar events.
- Grants the Executive Director of the ATCC exclusive regulatory authority over Class 8 farm brewery operations, but bars the Director from capping visitor numbers except as required by local fire safety code.
- Clarifies that the 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily operating window applies to the license's retail privileges.
- Redirects the Executive Director's annual report from the Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee and House Economic Matters Committee to the Senate Finance Committee and House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 861

(Senate Bill 807)

AN ACT concerning

Alcoholic Beverages – Class 8 Farm Brewery ~~and Class 10 Farm Distillery~~ Licenses

FOR the purpose of ~~establishing a Class 10 farm distillery license that authorizes a license holder to distill, rectify, bottle, and sell at wholesale or retail distilled spirits produced on the licensed farm;~~ requiring that a holder of a Class 8 farm brewery license ~~or a Class 10 farm distillery license~~ engage in certain agritourism activity; altering certain standards and requirements for food service under a Class 8 farm brewery license; providing an exception to a prohibition against issuing an alcoholic beverages license for a premises that does not comply with local zoning laws for certain Class 8 farm brewery licenses and Class 10 farm distillery licenses; ~~authorizing the holder of a Class 10 farm distillery license to apply for and obtain additional Class 10 farm distillery licenses under certain circumstances and a Class 8 liquor wholesaler’s license;~~ and generally relating to Class 8 farm brewery ~~and Class 10 farm distillery~~ alcoholic beverages licenses.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 1-405, and 2-210, and 2-212
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

~~BY adding to~~
~~Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis~~
~~Section 2-203.1~~
~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
~~(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

1-405.

(a) A license may not be issued for a premises unless the premises conforms to all requirements set out in this article or the Tax – General Article.

(b) **(1) [A] EXCEPT FOR THIS SUBSECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A CLASS 8 FARM BREWERY LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 2-210 OF THIS ARTICLE OR A CLASS 10**



~~FARM DISTILLERY LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 2-203.1 OF THIS ARTICLE, A IF THE HOLDER OF THE CLASS 8 FARM BREWERY LICENSE HOLDS A CLASS 8 FARM BREWERY LICENSE FIRST ISSUED ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2015.~~

(2) A license or an alcoholic beverages permit may not be issued for a premises unless the premises conforms with all zoning laws, regulations, or ordinances passed in accordance with Division I of the Land Use Article.

~~2-203.1.~~

~~(A) THERE IS A CLASS 10 FARM DISTILLERY LICENSE.~~

~~(B) THE LICENSE MAY BE ISSUED ONLY TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS 8 FARM BREWERY LICENSE.~~

~~(C) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A LICENSE HOLDER MAY SELL AND DELIVER SPIRITS PRODUCED ON THE LICENSED FARM TO:~~

~~(I) A WHOLESALER LICENSED TO SELL AND DELIVER SPIRITS IN THE STATE; OR~~

~~(II) A PERSON IN ANOTHER STATE AUTHORIZED TO ACQUIRE SPIRITS.~~

~~(2) THE DISTILLED SPIRITS TO BE SOLD AND DELIVERED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE MANUFACTURED WITH AN INGREDIENT FROM A MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL PRODUCT, INCLUDING CORN, GRAIN, AND FRUIT, PRODUCED ON THE LICENSED FARM.~~

~~(3) THE LICENSED FARM SHALL BE:~~

~~(I) AN AGRIBUSINESS ENGAGED IN THE PRODUCTION, SHOWCASING, PREPARATION, AND SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS; AND~~

~~(II) ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN AGRITOURISM BY EXPOSING THE PUBLIC TO FARMING AND VALUE ADDED FARMING PRACTICES.~~

~~(D) A LICENSE HOLDER MAY:~~

~~(1) (I) SUBJECT TO ITEM (II) OF THIS ITEM, ESTABLISH AND OPERATE A PLANT ON THE LICENSED FARM FOR DISTILLING, RECTIFYING, AND BOTTLING BRANDY, RUM, WHISKEY, ALCOHOL, AND NEUTRAL SPIRITS;~~



~~(H) HAVE MORE THAN ONE LICENSE ISSUED BY THE COMMISSION AT THE SAME LOCATION IF THE LICENSE HOLDER:~~

~~1. MAINTAINS A SINGLE BRAND AT ANY TIME FOR EACH PRODUCT OF BRANDY, RUM, WHISKEY, ALCOHOL, AND NEUTRAL SPIRIT THAT IS DISTILLED, RECTIFIED, AND SOLD; AND~~

~~2. DOES NOT MANUFACTURE OR RECTIFY A PRODUCT OF ANY OTHER BRAND FOR A SEPARATE ENTITY;~~

~~(H) HOLD OR OBTAIN:~~

~~1. A CLASS 7 LIMITED BEER WHOLESALER'S LICENSE;~~

~~OR~~

~~2. A CLASS 8 LIQUOR WHOLESALER'S LICENSE;~~

~~(2) ACQUIRE BULK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FROM THE HOLDER OF A DISTILLERY OR RECTIFYING LICENSE IN THE STATE OR THE HOLDER OF A NONRESIDENT DEALER'S PERMIT;~~

~~(3) AFTER ACQUIRING AN INDIVIDUAL STORAGE PERMIT UNDER § 2-113 OF THIS TITLE, STORE PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED ON THE LICENSED FARM;~~

~~(4) SELL AND DELIVER THE PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED UNDER THE LICENSE FOR ON-PREMISES AND OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION;~~

~~(5) CONDUCT GUIDED TOURS OF THE PORTION OF THE LICENSED FARM USED FOR DISTILLING, RECTIFYING, AND BOTTLING;~~

~~(6) SERVE PRODUCTS THAT ARE MANUFACTURED ON THE LICENSED FARM OR BY ANOTHER MANUFACTURER IN THE STATE TO A CONSUMER AT NO CHARGE OR FOR A FEE;~~

~~(7) SELL OR SERVE FOOD IF THE LICENSE HOLDER:~~

~~(I) IS LICENSED TO OPERATE A FOOD ESTABLISHMENT UNDER TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 3 OF THE HEALTH GENERAL ARTICLE;~~

~~(II) USES A LICENSED FOOD TRUCK;~~

~~(III) USES A LICENSED CATERER; OR~~



~~(IV) IS SELLING OR SERVING COTTAGE INDUSTRY FOOD PREPARED ON THE FARM UNDER § 21-330.1 OF THE HEALTH GENERAL ARTICLE; AND~~

~~(8) IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (C)(3) OF THIS SECTION:~~

~~(I) HOST FESTIVALS;~~

~~(II) PROVIDE LIVE MUSIC OR OTHER ENTERTAINMENT; OR~~

~~(III) RENT PORTIONS OF THE LICENSED FARM TO THE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS FOR FUNCTIONS OR EVENTS, INCLUDING:~~

~~1. BANQUETS;~~

~~2. WEDDINGS;~~

~~3. ANNIVERSARY PARTIES;~~

~~4. BIRTHDAY PARTIES;~~

~~5. FUNDRAISERS; AND~~

~~6. OTHER SIMILAR CELEBRATIONS OR EVENTS.~~

~~(E) A LICENSE HOLDER MAY NOT:~~

~~(1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (D)(1) OF THIS SECTION:~~

~~(I) HOLD OR OBTAIN A WHOLESALER'S LICENSE; OR~~

~~(II) OWN, OPERATE, OR BE AFFILIATED IN ANY MANNER WITH ANOTHER MANUFACTURER; OR~~

~~(2) DISTILL, RECTIFY, BOTTLE, OR SELL MORE THAN 100,000 GALLONS OF BRANDY, RUM, WHISKEY, ALCOHOL, OR NEUTRAL SPIRITS EACH CALENDAR YEAR.~~

~~(F) A CLASS 10 FARM DISTILLERY MAY BE LOCATED ONLY AT THE PLACE DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE.~~



~~(G) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND NOTWITHSTANDING ANY LOCAL LAW, A LICENSE HOLDER MAY EXERCISE THE PRIVILEGES OF A CLASS 10 FARM DISTILLERY LICENSE.~~

~~(2) THE COMMISSION HAS EXCLUSIVE REGULATORY AUTHORITY OVER THE OPERATION OF A CLASS 10 FARM DISTILLERY.~~

~~(H) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEE:~~

~~(1) SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; AND~~

~~(2) MAY NOT EXCEED \$500.~~

2-210.

(a) There is a Class 8 farm brewery license.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a license holder may sell and deliver beer manufactured in a facility on the licensed farm or in a facility other than one on the licensed farm to:

- (i) a wholesaler licensed to sell and deliver beer in the State; or
- (ii) a person in another state authorized to acquire beer.

(2) The beer to be sold and delivered under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be manufactured with an ingredient from a Maryland agricultural product, including hops, grain, and fruit, produced on the licensed farm.

(3) THE LICENSED FARM SHALL BE:

(I) AN AGRIBUSINESS ENGAGED IN THE PRODUCTION, SHOWCASING, PREPARATION, AND SALE OF FARM PRODUCTS; AND

(II) ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN AGRITOURISM BY EXPOSING THE PUBLIC TO FARMING AND VALUE-ADDED FARMING PRACTICES.

(c) A license holder may:

(1) (i) sell beer produced by the license holder ~~OR ANOTHER MANUFACTURER IN THE STATE~~ for on-premises and off-premises consumption;

(ii) in an amount not exceeding 6 fluid ounces per brand, provide samples of beer that the license holder produces to a consumer:



- 1. at no charge; or
- 2. for a fee; ~~AND~~

(iii) sell or serve~~f~~:

- 1. bread and other baked goods;
- 2. chili;
- 3. chocolate;
- 4. crackers;
- 5. cured meat;
- 6. fruits (whole and cut);
- 7. hard and soft cheese (whole and cut);
- 8. salads and vegetables (whole and cut);
- 9. ice cream;
- 10. jam;
- 11. jelly;
- 12. vinegar;
- 13. pizza;
- 14. prepackaged sandwiches and other prepackaged foods ready to be eaten;
- 15. soup; and
- 16. condiments; and

(iv) subject to subsection (e)(2) of this section, sell or serve any~~f~~ food if the license holder:

- 1. is licensed to operate a food establishment under Title 21, Subtitle 3 of the Health – General Article;



2. USES A LICENSED FOOD TRUCK;

3. USES A LICENSED CATERER; OR

4. IS SELLING OR SERVING COTTAGE INDUSTRY FOOD PREPARED ON THE FARM UNDER § 21–330.1 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE;

(2) store, in a segregated area approved by the Executive Director, beer produced by the license holder for sale and delivery to a wholesaler licensed in the State or a person outside the State authorized to acquire the beer;

(3) brew, bottle, or contract for not more than 15,000 barrels of beer each calendar year;

(4) contract with the holder of a Class 2 rectifying license, a Class 5 brewery license, or a Class 7 micro–brewery license to brew and bottle beer from ingredients produced on the licensed farm;

(5) import, export, and transport its beer in accordance with this section;

(6) store, brew, and bottle beer in a facility listed on a permit issued to the license holder in accordance with § 2–113 of this title, for sale and delivery to a wholesaler licensed in the State or a person outside the State authorized to acquire the beer, or shipment back to the licensed farm, if:

(i) the license holder does not serve or sell beer at the warehouse;
and

(ii) the Executive Director has full access at all times to the warehouse to enforce this article; [and]

(7) enter into a temporary delivery agreement with a distributor only for delivery of beer to a beer festival or a wine and beer festival, and the return of any unused beer, if:

(i) the festival is in a sales territory for which the license holder does not have a franchise with a distributor under the Beer Franchise Fair Dealing Act in Title 5, Subtitle 1 of this article; and

(ii) the temporary delivery agreement is in writing; **AND**

(8) IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B)(3) OF THIS SECTION:

(I) HOST FESTIVALS;



(II) PROVIDE LIVE MUSIC OR OTHER ENTERTAINMENT; OR

(III) RENT PORTIONS OF THE LICENSED FARM TO THE PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS OR GROUPS FOR FUNCTIONS OR EVENTS, INCLUDING:

- 1. BANQUETS;
- 2. WEDDINGS;
- 3. ANNIVERSARY PARTIES;
- 4. BIRTHDAY PARTIES;
- 5. FUNDRAISERS; AND
- 6. OTHER SIMILAR CELEBRATIONS OR EVENTS.

(d) [(1)] A Class 8 farm brewery may be located only at the place stated on the license.

[(2)] The place listed on the license shall be in compliance with § 1-405(b) of this article.]

(e) (1) [Except as provided in] **SUBJECT TO** paragraph (2) of this subsection and notwithstanding any local law, a license holder may exercise the privileges of a Class 8 farm brewery license.

(2) [A license holder who sells foods under subsection (c)(1)(iv) of this section shall meet the same ratio of gross receipts between food and alcoholic beverages sales as a holder of a Class D beer and wine license or an equivalent license in the jurisdiction, as the local licensing board determines] ~~THE COMMISSION~~ **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HAS EXCLUSIVE REGULATORY AUTHORITY OVER THE OPERATION OF A CLASS 8 FARM BREWERY.**

(3) **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN A LOCAL FIRE SAFETY CODE, THE ~~COMMISSION~~ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY NOT LIMIT THE NUMBER OF VISITORS ON THE LICENSED PREMISES.**

(f) (1) This subsection does not apply to a permit issued under § 2-140 of this title.

(2) A license holder at the location listed on the license may exercise the **RETAIL** privileges of the license each day from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.



(g) Except as provided in Division II of this article, a Class 8 farm brewery license allows the license holder to operate 7 days a week.

(h) Nothing in this section limits the application of relevant provisions of Title 21 of the Health – General Article, and regulations adopted under that title, to a license holder.

(i) (1) A license holder may sponsor a multibrewery activity at the location issued on the license that:

(i) includes the products of other Maryland breweries; and

(ii) provides for the sale of products in the manner authorized under the license.

(2) In a segregated area approved by the Executive Director at the location listed on the license, a license holder may store the products of other Maryland breweries for the multibrewery activity.

(3) The multibrewery activity:

(i) may be held from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day; and

(ii) may not exceed 3 consecutive days.

(j) The annual license fee:

(1) shall be determined by the Executive Director; and

(2) may not exceed \$200.

(k) (1) On or before December 1 each year, the Executive Director shall report to the Senate **FINANCE** Committee [on Education, Energy, and the Environment] and the House [Economic Matters] **GOVERNMENT, LABOR, AND ELECTIONS** Committee, in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the total beer production of each Class 8 license holder in the preceding fiscal year, identified by jurisdiction and license holder.

(2) Each holder of a Class 8 license shall report to the Executive Director the information needed to prepare the annual report required under this subsection.

(3) The Executive Director shall include the information reported under this subsection in the annual report submitted under § 1–316 of this article.

~~2-212.~~

~~(a) (1) This subsection does not apply to a Class 6 pub-brewery license.~~



~~(2) The holder of a distillery, FARM DISTILLERY, rectifying, winery, limited winery, brewery, or farm brewery license may apply for and obtain, under a different name, one or more additional distillery, FARM DISTILLERY, rectifying, winery, limited winery, brewery, or farm brewery licenses for the same or different premises.~~

~~(3) (i) The holder of multiple manufacturer's licenses at the same location may allow the sampling, sales, and consumption of products produced under the licenses at each of the licensed premises.~~

~~(ii) The sampling, sales, and consumption of products shall be consistent with the authorization for each license.~~

~~(4) The additional licenses may be issued to different persons or under trade names used by persons occupying all or a part of the same premises.~~

~~(5) A holder of a license listed in paragraph (2) of this subsection may hold additional licenses listed in paragraph (2) of this subsection of the same or of a different class.~~

~~(6) The holder of a micro brewery license may apply for and obtain not more than one additional micro brewery license for another premises.~~

~~(b) (1) The holder of a rectifying or winery license may apply for and obtain a wholesaler's license of any class for the same premises or elsewhere as provided under this article.~~

~~(2) The holder of a Class 4 limited winery license may apply for and obtain a Class 6 limited wine wholesaler's license for the same premises or elsewhere as provided under this article.~~

~~(3) (i) The holder of a Class 5 brewery license or Class 7 micro brewery license may apply for and obtain a Class 7 limited beer wholesaler's license in accordance with this paragraph.~~

~~(ii) A holder of a Class 5 brewery license that was selling the holder's own beer at wholesale in the State as of January 1, 2013, may obtain a Class 7 limited beer wholesaler's license to continue to sell the holder's own beer at wholesale in the same location in an amount that is not more than 5,000 barrels annually.~~

~~(iii) A holder of a Class 5 brewery license that produces in aggregate from all its locations not more than 45,000 barrels of beer annually may obtain a Class 7 limited beer wholesaler's license and distribute not more than 5,000 barrels of its own beer annually.~~



~~(4) A holder of one or two Class 7 micro-brewery licenses that produces in aggregate from all of its locations not more than 45,000 barrels of beer annually may obtain a Class 7 limited beer wholesaler’s license and distribute beer that:~~

~~(i) totals annually not more than 5,000 barrels in aggregate from all of its locations; and~~

~~(ii) has been brewed at the location from where it is distributed.~~

~~(5) The holder of a Class 1 distillery license may apply for and obtain a Class 8 liquor wholesaler’s license for the same premises or elsewhere as provided under this article.~~

~~(6) The holder of a Class 9 limited distillery license OR A CLASS 10 FARM DISTILLERY LICENSE may apply for and obtain a Class 8 liquor wholesaler’s license, for the same premises or elsewhere as provided under this article, and distribute its own liquor.~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages – Class 9 Limited Distillery License – Alteration

HB0999



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 2-203



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Allows a Class 9 distillery to produce spirits for a brand owned by another entity.
- Removes a limitation on maintaining, producing, or selling more than one brand of brandy, rum, whiskey, alcohol, or neutral spirits at the same time.
- A Class 9 Distillery may not distill or rectify more than 31,000 gallons of product for another brand or entity.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 860

(House Bill 999)

AN ACT concerning

Alcoholic Beverages – Class 9 Limited Distillery License – Alteration

FOR the purpose of authorizing the holder of a Class 9 limited distillery license to manufacture, rectify, or bottle more than one brand of alcoholic beverage; authorizing the holder to manufacture or rectify up to a certain amount of product of an entity other than the holder; and generally relating to Class 9 limited distillery licenses.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 2–203
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

2–203.

(a) There is a Class 9 limited distillery license.

(b) The limited distillery license may be issued only to a holder of a:

(1) Class D beer, wine, and liquor license where sales for both on- and off-premises consumption are permitted for use on the premises for which the Class D license was issued; or

(2) Class B beer, wine, and liquor license where sales for both on- and off-premises consumption are permitted for use on the premises for which the Class B license was issued.

(c) A holder of the limited distillery license:

(1) may establish and operate a plant in the State for distilling, rectifying, and bottling brandy, rum, whiskey, alcohol, and neutral spirits [if the holder:

(i) maintains only one brand at any one time for each product of brandy, rum, whiskey, alcohol, and neutral spirits that is distilled, rectified, and sold; and



(ii) does not manufacture or rectify product of any other brand for another entity];

(2) may acquire bulk alcoholic beverages from the holder of a distillery or rectifying license in the State or from the holder of a nonresident dealer’s permit;

(3) after acquiring an individual storage permit, may store on the licensed premises those products manufactured under the license;

(4) except as authorized under subsection (d)(1) of this section, may sell and deliver those products manufactured under the license only to a licensed wholesaler in the State or person authorized to acquire distilled spirits in another state and not to a county dispensary;

(5) may sell the products manufactured under the license at retail in a manner consistent with the underlying Class D or Class B license;

(6) may conduct guided tours of that portion of the licensed premises used for the limited distillery operation; and

(7) may serve not more than three samples of products manufactured at the licensed premises, with each sample consisting of not more than one-half ounce from a single product, to persons who:

(i) have attained the legal drinking age;

(ii) participated in a guided tour; and

(iii) are present on that portion of the premises used for the limited distillery operation.

(d) A holder of the limited distillery license may not:

(1) apply for or possess a wholesaler’s license, except for a Class 8 liquor wholesaler’s license;

(2) sell bottles of the products manufactured at the Class 9 limited distillery on that part of the premises used for the distillery operation;

(3) except as provided in subsection (e) of this section, distill, rectify, bottle, or sell more than 100,000 gallons of brandy, rum, whiskey, alcohol, and neutral spirits each calendar year;

(4) sell at retail on the premises of the Class D or Class B license, for on-premises or off-premises consumption, more than 31,000 gallons of the products manufactured under the license each calendar year; [and]



(5) MANUFACTURE OR RECTIFY MORE THAN 31,000 GALLONS OF PRODUCT EACH CALENDAR YEAR FOR ANY OTHER BRAND OR ENTITY; AND

(6) own, operate, or be affiliated in any manner with another manufacturer.

(e) To distill more than the gallonage specified in subsection (d)(3) of this section, a holder of the limited distillery license shall divest itself of any Class D or Class B retail license and obtain a Class 1 distillery license.

(f) A holder of the limited distillery license shall abide by all trade practice restrictions applicable to distilleries.

(g) The annual license fee:

- (1) shall be determined by the Executive Director; and
- (2) may not exceed \$500.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Tobacco Product Licensees - Additional Licensure for Electronic Smoking Devices

SB0249



STATUTES AFFECTED:

Article – Business Regulation Section 16.7-101(a), (c)-(h), (k), 16.7-102, and 16.7-202 (a)



EFFECTIVE DATE:

October 1, 2026. **Note:** Grandfathered active tobacco license holders will not be required to obtain new ESD licenses until the following annual license renewal on May 1, 2026.

SUMMARY

- Requires cigarette and OTP licensees to obtain a separate electronic smoking devices license in order to manufacture, distribute, or sell ESDs.
- Exempts applicants from paying an additional fee for an ESD retailer or vape shop vendor license if they already hold a cigarette or OTP retailer license.
- A grandfather clause allows OTP or cigarette license holders who are licensed as of September 30, 2026 to continue manufacturing, distributing, or selling ESDs without obtaining an ESD license until the expiration of their current OTP or cigarette license (April 30, 2026).

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 415

(Senate Bill 249)

AN ACT concerning

Tobacco Product Licensees – Additional Licensure for Electronic Smoking Devices

FOR the purpose of repealing a provision of law authorizing a person holding a certain license relating to cigarettes or other tobacco products to manufacture, distribute, or sell electronic smoking devices in the same capacity as a person holding a certain license relating to electronic smoking devices; exempting the holder of a certain license relating to cigarettes or other tobacco products who is an applicant for a license to act as an electronic smoking devices retailer or vape shop vendor from the requirement to pay an additional license fee for the license; and generally relating to tobacco products and electronic smoking devices licensure.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Business Regulation
 Section 16.7–101(a), (c) through (h), and (k)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)
 (As enacted by Chapter 814 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2017)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Business Regulation
 Section 16.7–102 and 16.7–202(a)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Business Regulation

16.7–101.

(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(c) (1) “Electronic smoking device” means a device that can be used to deliver aerosolized or vaporized nicotine to an individual inhaling from the device.

(2) “Electronic smoking device” includes:

(i) an electronic cigarette, an electronic cigar, an electronic cigarillo, an electronic pipe, an electronic hookah, a vape pen, and vaping liquid; and



(ii) except as provided in paragraph (3) of this subsection, any component, part, or accessory of such a device regardless of whether or not it is sold separately, including any substance intended to be aerosolized or vaporized during use of the device.

(3) “Electronic smoking device” does not include:

(i) a drug, device, or combination product authorized for sale by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; or

(ii) a battery or battery charger when sold separately.

(d) “Electronic smoking devices manufacturer” means a person that:

(1) manufactures, mixes, or otherwise produces electronic smoking devices intended for sale in the State, including electronic smoking devices intended for sale in the United States through an importer; and

(2) (i) sells electronic smoking devices to a consumer, if the consumer purchases or orders the devices through the mail, a computer network, a telephonic network, or another electronic network, a licensed electronic smoking devices wholesaler distributor, or a licensed electronic smoking devices wholesaler importer in the State;

(ii) if the electronic smoking devices manufacturer also holds a license to act as an electronic smoking devices retailer or a vape shop vendor, sells electronic smoking devices in the same manner as a vape shop vendor to consumers located in the State; or

(iii) unless otherwise prohibited or restricted under local law, this article, or the Criminal Law Article, distributes sample electronic smoking devices to a licensed electronic smoking devices retailer or vape shop vendor.

(e) “Electronic smoking devices retailer” means a person that:

(1) sells electronic smoking devices to consumers;

(2) holds electronic smoking devices for sale to consumers; or

(3) unless otherwise prohibited or restricted under local law, this article, the Criminal Law Article, or § 24–305 of the Health – General Article, distributes sample electronic smoking devices to consumers in the State.

(f) “Electronic smoking devices wholesaler distributor” means a person that:



(1) obtains at least 70% of its electronic smoking devices from a holder of an electronic smoking devices manufacturer license under this subtitle or a business entity located in the United States; and

(2) (i) holds electronic smoking devices for sale to another person for resale; or

(ii) sells electronic smoking devices to another person for resale.

(g) “Electronic smoking devices wholesaler importer” means a person that:

(1) obtains at least 70% of its electronic smoking devices from a business entity located in a foreign country; and

(2) (i) holds electronic smoking devices for sale to another person for resale; or

(ii) sells electronic smoking devices to another person for resale.

(h) “Executive Director” means the Executive Director of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission.

(k) “Vape shop vendor” means an electronic smoking devices business that sells electronic smoking devices and related accessories to consumers on the premises of its place of business.

16.7–102.

(a) The Executive Director may delegate any power or duty of the Executive Director under this title.

(b) Any person licensed under Title 16 or Title 16.5 of this article, or an affiliate, as defined under § 16–402(c) of this article, of a person licensed under Title 16 of this article[:

(1) is authorized to manufacture, distribute, or sell electronic smoking devices pursuant to this title in the same capacity as the person is licensed under Title 16 or Title 16.5 of this article; and

(2) may not be required to] **MUST** obtain an additional license under this title **IN ORDER TO MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTE, OR SELL ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES UNDER THIS TITLE.**

16.7–202.



(a) (1) An applicant for a license to act as an electronic smoking devices manufacturer, electronic smoking devices wholesaler distributor, or electronic smoking devices wholesaler importer shall:

(i) obtain an appropriate county license by submitting an application to the Executive Director on the form and containing the information that the Executive Director requires;

(ii) indicate the licenses for which the applicant is applying; and

(iii) except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, pay to the Executive Director a fee of \$25 for each license for which the applicant applies.

(2) An applicant for a license to act as an electronic smoking devices wholesaler distributor or electronic smoking devices wholesaler importer shall pay to the Executive Director a fee of \$150.

(3) AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE TO ACT AS AN ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES RETAILER OR VAPE SHOP VENDOR MAY NOT BE REQUIRED TO PAY AN ADDITIONAL LICENSURE FEE IF THE APPLICANT HOLDS A LICENSE ISSUED UNDER:

(I) § 16–205(B) OF THIS ARTICLE; OR

(II) § 16.5–204(B) OF THIS ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding § 16.7–102 of the Business Regulation Article as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, a person licensed under Title 16 or Title 16.5 of the Business Regulation Article on September 30, 2026, may manufacture, distribute, or sell electronic smoking devices under Title 16.7 of the Business Regulation Article in the same capacity as the person is licensed under Title 16 or Title 16.5 of the Business Regulation Article until the expiration of the license.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2026.



Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission - Unauthorized Consumable Products - Enforcement and Seizure

SB0820
HB1523



STATUTES AFFECTED:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 1-313, 1-323, 6-101, and 6-207
Article – Health – General Section 21-2E-02, 21-2E-03, 21-2F-02, 21-2F-03



EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 1, 2026

SUMMARY

- Expands ATCC Field Enforcement Division citation authority to include violations under Title 21, Subtitles 2D, 2E, and 2F of the Health – General Article (covering tianeptine, kratom, and phenibut products).
 - Defines relevant terms, including:
 - “Advertise” (covering packaging, labeling, and electronic communication),
 - “Retailer” (broadly covering manufacturers, wholesalers, stores, restaurants, gas stations, and other food/drink businesses), and
 - “Unauthorized consumable product” (covering tianeptine, kratom, and phenibut products that are not compliant with the Health General Article, or other consumable products containing poisonous or deleterious substances that are designated by the Secretary of Health).
- Prohibits retailers from distributing, selling, exposing for sale, or advertising unauthorized consumable products.
- A retailer who distributes, sells, or advertises an unauthorized consumable product is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$5,000, and authorizes the District Court to order suspension or revocation of their business license, product destruction, and find the retailer liable for civil damages sustained by an individual that result from the violation.
- Authorizes the ATCC to seize, confiscate, or destroy:
 - Unauthorized consumable products offered, advertised, or displayed for sale,
 - Kratom products labeled, advertised, represented, or offered as containing 7-hydroxymitragynine above the amount permitted under Section 21-2E-02 of the Health – General Article,
 - Products other than kratom that are labeled, advertised, represented, or offered as containing 7-hydroxymitragynine greater than 1mg per serving,

continued

SB0820/HB1523

Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission - Unauthorized Consumable Products - Enforcement and Seizure — *continued*

- Products labeled, advertised, represented, or offered as containing tianeptine sodium, tianeptine sulfate, or beta-phenyl-gamma-aminobutyric acid HCl.
- Seized products are presumed to be contraband subject to summary forfeiture unless the person demonstrates the product complies with Title 21, Subtitle 2E of the Health – General Article (if applicable) or is authorized for sale by the Maryland Department of Health or U.S. Food and Drug Administration.
- Adds unauthorized consumable products (as defined under § 1-323) to the categories of contraband property subject to seizure and forfeiture, and adds property seized under § 1-323 as a new basis for forfeiture.
- Establishes that in prosecutions under § 1-323(B) or for related violations, proof that a defendant displayed, advertised, or offered an unauthorized consumable product for sale constitutes prima facie evidence that the defendant sold the product.
- Narrows the Health General Article’s good-faith defense for retailers that sell adulterated or otherwise unlawful kratom and phenibut products to a rebuttable defense that is only available if they act in good-faith reliance on representations made on the manufacturer’s label.
- Expands the existing kratom and phenibut products retail advertising restrictions in several ways:
 - Prohibits the use of images, graphics, or features that are popularly used to advertise to children, including: neon colors, brightly colored displays, animals, mascots, and statements, artwork, or designs that would mislead and individual to believe that the package contains anything other than kratom/phenibut.
 - Replaces the prior restriction on outdoor billboards within 500 feet of a school with a broader prohibition on placing kratom or phenibut advertisements on the side of buildings or any other publicly visible signs, displays, or billboards.
 - Adds a new penalty provision for these advertising violations, making them a misdemeanor punishable by a fine up to \$5,000, imprisonment up to 90 days, or both.
- Directs the Maryland Department of Health to notify the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission within 30 days after any change in the regulatory or approval status of kratom, tianeptine, phenibut, or other designated unauthorized consumable products.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 355

(Senate Bill 820)

AN ACT concerning

**Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission – Unauthorized Consumable
Products – Enforcement and Seizure**

FOR the purpose of altering the violations of law with respect to which the Field Enforcement Division of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission is authorized to issue a citation or charging document; prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, exposing for sale, or advertising for sale unauthorized consumable products; authorizing the Executive Director of the Commission to seize, confiscate, or destroy unauthorized consumable products and certain other products; establishing and ~~repealing~~ altering certain provisions governing the enforcement of certain prohibitions related to unauthorized consumable products; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to report certain changes related to unauthorized consumable products to the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission within a certain time; and generally relating to enforcement and seizure of unauthorized consumable products by the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 1–313, 6–101, and 6–207
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 1–323
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Health – General
 Section 21–2E–02, 21–2E–03, 21–2F–02, and 21–2F–03
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

1–313.



(a) There is a Field Enforcement Division in the Office of the Executive Director.

(b) (1) The Field Enforcement Division may employ officers and employees as provided in the State budget.

(2) The officers and employees of the Field Enforcement Division:

(i) shall be sworn police officers;

(ii) shall have the powers, duties, and responsibilities of peace officers to enforce the provisions of this article relating to:

1. the unlawful importation of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and cannabis into the State;

2. the unlawful manufacture of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and cannabis in the State;

3. the transportation and distribution throughout the State of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and cannabis that are manufactured illegally and on which any alcoholic beverages taxes, tobacco taxes, or cannabis taxes imposed by the State are due and unpaid; and

4. the manufacture, sale, barter, transportation, distribution, or other form of owning, handling, or dispersing alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or cannabis by any person not licensed or authorized under this article, provisions of the Tax – General Article relating to alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or cannabis, or provisions of the Business Regulation Article relating to alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or cannabis;

(iii) may issue a citation or other charging document to a person who has committed a violation of [§ 10–108]:

1. **SECTION 10–108** of the Criminal Law Article;

2. **TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2D OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE;**

3. **TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2E OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; AND**

4. **TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2F OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; and**



(iv) may make cooperative arrangements for and work and cooperate with the Office of the Comptroller, local State’s Attorneys, sheriffs, bailiffs, police, and other prosecuting and peace officers to enforce this article.

(c) The Field Enforcement Division:

(1) shall consult with and advise the local State’s Attorneys and other law enforcement officials and police officers regarding enforcement problems in their respective jurisdictions; and

(2) may recommend changes to improve the administration of this article, provisions of the Tax – General Article relating to alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and cannabis, and provisions of the Business Regulation Article relating to tobacco.

1-323.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “ADVERTISE” INCLUDES PACKAGING, LABELING, OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.

(3) (I) “RETAILER” MEANS A PERSON THAT:

1. SELLS, PREPARES, OR MAINTAINS UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS; OR

2. ADVERTISES, REPRESENTS, OR HOLDS ITSELF OUT AS SELLING, PREPARING, OR MAINTAINING UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS.

(II) “RETAILER” INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING PERSONS, IF THE PERSON OTHERWISE MEETS THE DEFINITION ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH:

1. A MANUFACTURER;

2. A WHOLESALER;

3. A STORE;

4. A RESTAURANT;

5. A HOTEL;



- 6. A CATERING FACILITY;
- 7. A CAMP;
- 8. A BAKERY;
- 9. A DELICATESSEN;
- 10. A SUPERMARKET;
- 11. A GROCERY STORE;
- 12. A CONVENIENCE STORE;
- 13. A GAS STATION;
- 14. A FOOD COMPANY; AND
- 15. A DRINK COMPANY.

(4) “UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT” MEANS:

(I) A TIANEPTINE PRODUCT AS DEFINED IN § 21-2D-01 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE;

(II) A KRATOM PRODUCT, AS DEFINED IN § 21-2E-01 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE ~~DESCRIBED IN § 21-2E-02(A)(2) OR § 21-2E-02(B) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE THAT IS ADVERTISED, PROMOTED, PACKAGED, OR LABELED IN A MANNER PROHIBITED UNDER § 21-2E-03 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE,~~ THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2E OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE;

(III) A PHENIBUT PRODUCT, AS DEFINED IN § 21-2F-01 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE ~~THAT IS DESCRIBED IN § 21-2F-02(A)(2) OR § 21-2F-02(B) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE THAT IS ADVERTISED, PROMOTED, PACKAGED, OR LABELED IN A MANNER PROHIBITED UNDER § 21-2F-03 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE,~~ THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2F OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; AND

(IV) A CONSUMABLE PRODUCT THAT CONTAINS A POISONOUS OR DELETERIOUS SUBSTANCE IN VIOLATION OF A RULE OR REGULATION ADOPTED



UNDER § 21-239(C) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE AND IS DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH FOR ENFORCEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

(B) A RETAILER MAY NOT DISTRIBUTE, SELL, EXPOSE FOR SALE, OR ADVERTISE FOR SALE AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT.

(C) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY SEIZE, CONFISCATE, OR DESTROY:

(1) AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT THAT IS OFFERED, ADVERTISED, OR DISPLAYED FOR SALE TO A CONSUMER IN THE STATE; ~~AND AND~~

(2) A PRODUCT THAT IS LABELED, ADVERTISED, REPRESENTED, OR OFFERED FOR SALE AS CONTAINING:

(I) 7-HYDROXYMITRAGYNINE IN AN AMOUNT THAT:

1. FOR A KRATOM PRODUCT, IS GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT PERMITTED UNDER § 21-2E-02(B)(1)(III) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; OR

2. IS GREATER THAN 1 MILLIGRAM PER SERVING;

~~(I) KRATOM;~~

~~(II) 7-HYDROXYMITRAGYNINE;~~

~~(III) ANY PART OF THE PLANT MITRAGYNA SPECIOSA;~~

~~(IV) (I) (II) TIANEPTINE SODIUM;~~

~~(V) (II) (III) TIANEPTINE SULFATE; OR~~

~~(VI) (III) PHENIBUT; OR~~

~~(VII) (IV) BETA-PHENYL-GAMMA-AMINO BUTYRIC ACID HCL;~~

AND

~~(3) A PRODUCT REPRESENTED TO CONTAIN KRATOM, 7-HYDROXYMITRAGYNINE, OR ANY PART OF THE PLANT MITRAGYNA SPECIOSA THAT IS:~~

~~(I) LABELED OR ADVERTISED IN VIOLATION OF § 21-2E-02 OR § 21-2E-03 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; OR~~



~~(H) LABELED, ADVERTISED, OR OTHERWISE REPRESENTED TO CONTAIN MORE THAN ONE MILLIGRAM PER SERVING OF 7-HYDROXYMITRAGYNINE.~~

(D) A PRODUCT SEIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION IS PRESUMED TO BE CONTRABAND AND SUBJECT TO SUMMARY FORFEITURE UNLESS THE PERSON FROM WHOM THE PRODUCT WAS SEIZED DEMONSTRATES THE PRODUCT ~~WAS APPROVED~~ IS:

(1) IF APPLICABLE, IN COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2E OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; OR

(2) AUTHORIZED FOR SALE AND DISTRIBUTION FOR THE PURPOSES OF HUMAN CONSUMPTION BY:

~~(1)~~ (I) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; OR

~~(2)~~ (II) THE U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION.

(E) A RETAILER THAT VIOLATES SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000.

(F) IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTIES ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION:

(1) THE DISTRICT COURT MAY ORDER THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE COMPTROLLER, OR THE APPLICABLE LOCAL LICENSING BOARD OR COMMISSION TO:

(I) SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THIS ARTICLE OR TITLE 16, 16.5, 16.7, OR 17 OF THE BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE; AND

(II) DISPOSE OF OR DESTROY AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT SEIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION; AND

(2) A RETAILER THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS LIABLE FOR CIVIL DAMAGES SUSTAINED BY AN INDIVIDUAL THAT RESULT FROM THE VIOLATION.

6-101.



(a) Alcoholic beverages, **UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS, AS DEFINED UNDER § 1-323 OF THIS ARTICLE**, and other contraband kept, possessed, used, sold, manufactured, stored, or transported in violation of this article:

- (1) are subject to seizure and forfeiture; and
- (2) when seized, may be recovered or disposed of only as provided in this subtitle.

(b) Property is forfeited if it:

(1) was seized as contraband in the possession or control of a defendant who is found guilty of violating this article; [or]

(2) is otherwise found to be contraband or in violation of this article; **OR**

(3) WAS SEIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-323 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, property is forfeited if it:

(i) is seized as contraband and remains unclaimed for 30 days after seizure; and

(ii) has not been destroyed in accordance with this subtitle.

(2) (i) A vehicle, a vessel, or an aircraft that is seized as contraband is forfeited unless a protest is filed within 30 days after the publication under subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph.

(ii) The Comptroller or the Executive Director, as appropriate:

1. if possible, shall notify the registered owner of the property of the seizure; and

2. shall publish a notice:

A. in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the vehicle, vessel, or aircraft was seized; and

B. informing interested persons of the seizure and the right to file a protest.

6-207.



(a) In this section, “tetrahydrocannabinol” has the meaning stated in § 36–1102 of this article.

(b) In a prosecution for selling alcoholic beverages or tetrahydrocannabinol without an appropriate license, proof that the defendant displayed or offered alcoholic beverages or tetrahydrocannabinol for sale, or kept a place of business where alcoholic beverages or tetrahydrocannabinol were displayed or offered for sale, is prima facie evidence that the defendant sold alcoholic beverages or tetrahydrocannabinol.

(C) IN A PROSECUTION FOR A VIOLATION OF § 1–323(B) OF THIS ARTICLE OR A VIOLATION LISTED IN § 1–313(B)(2)(III)2, 3, OR 4 OF THIS ARTICLE, PROOF THAT THE DEFENDANT DISPLAYED OR OFFERED FOR SALE AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT, OR KEPT A PLACE OF BUSINESS WHERE AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT WAS DISPLAYED, ADVERTISED, OR OFFERED FOR SALE, IS PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE THAT THE DEFENDANT SOLD AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT.

Article – Health – General

21–2E–02.

(a) (1) A retailer that prepares, distributes, sells, or exposes for sale a kratom product shall disclose on the product label the factual basis on which the representation is made.

(2) A retailer may not prepare, distribute, sell, or expose for sale a kratom product that:

(i) Does not comply with the disclosure requirement established under paragraph (1) of this subsection; or

(ii) Has not been recognized as a dietary ingredient or approved drug by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a retailer may not prepare, distribute, sell, or expose for sale any of the following:

(i) A kratom product that is adulterated with a dangerous substance other than kratom;

(ii) A kratom product that is contaminated with a dangerous substance other than kratom;

(iii) A kratom product containing a level of 7–hydroxymitragynine in the alkaloid fraction that is greater than 2% of the alkaloid composition of the product;



(iv) A kratom product containing a synthetic alkaloid, including synthetic mitragynine, synthetic 7-hydroxymitragynine, or any other synthetically derived compound of the kratom plant; or

(v) A product containing kratom that does not include on its package or label the amount of mitragynine and 7-hydroxymitragynine contained in the product.

(2) (i) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection, a kratom product is adulterated with a dangerous substance other than kratom if:

~~1.~~ ~~The~~ THE:

1. The kratom product is mixed or packed with a substance other than kratom; and

2. That substance affects the quality or strength of the kratom product to a degree as to render the kratom product injurious to a consumer; and

~~2. That substance affects the quality or strength of the kratom product to a degree as to render the kratom product injurious to a consumer.~~

(ii) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection, a kratom product is contaminated with a dangerous substance other than kratom if the kratom product contains a poisonous or otherwise deleterious ingredient other than kratom, including a drug that is designated as a controlled dangerous substance under Title 5 of the Criminal Law Article.

(c) A retailer may not distribute, sell, or expose for sale a kratom product to an individual under the age of 21 years.

(d) ~~In~~ In a prosecution for a violation of this section, it is a **REBUTTABLE** defense that the defendant relied in good faith on the representations ~~of a manufacturer, processor, packer, or distributor of~~ **ON THE MANUFACTURER'S LABEL ON** a kratom product.

(e) ~~A~~ A retailer that violates subsection (a)(1) of this section is subject to a civil penalty not exceeding:

- (1) \$1,000 for a first violation; and
- (2) \$2,000 for each subsequent violation.

~~(f)~~ ~~(E)~~ A retailer that violates subsection (a)(2), (b), or (c) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$5,000, imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.



~~[(g)]~~ ~~(F)~~ In addition to any other penalties specified in this section, a retailer who violates this section is liable for any civil damages sustained by the individual resulting from the violation.

21-2E-03.

(a) A retailer may not directly or indirectly advertise a therapeutic benefit of kratom.

(b) A retailer may not directly or indirectly advertise or market kratom products to minors.

(c) It is a violation of subsection (b) of this section for a retailer to use any of the following in the advertising, promotion, packaging, or labeling of a kratom product:

(1) A cartoon;

(2) A superhero;

(3) A video game reference;

(4) An image of a food product primarily intended for minors;

(5) A trademark that imitates or mimics the trademark of a product that has been advertised or marketed primarily to minors;

(6) A symbol or celebrity that is primarily associated with minors or media primarily directed to minors; [and]

(7) An image of an individual who appears to be under the age of 27 years;

AND

(8) OTHER IMAGES, GRAPHICS, OR FEATURES OR LIKENESSES TO IMAGES, GRAPHICS, OR FEATURES THAT ARE POPULARLY USED TO ADVERTISE TO CHILDREN, INCLUDING:

(I) NEON COLORS, SIGNS, OR OTHER BRIGHTLY COLORED DISPLAYS;

(II) ANIMALS;

(III) MASCOTS; OR



(IV) STATEMENTS, ARTWORK, OR DESIGNS THAT COULD REASONABLY MISLEAD AN INDIVIDUAL TO BELIEVE THAT THE PACKAGE CONTAINS ANYTHING OTHER THAN A KRATOM PRODUCT.

(d) It is a violation of subsection (b) of this section for a retailer to advertise or promote a kratom product:

(1) In a newspaper, a magazine, a periodical, or any other publication for which individuals under the age of 21 years constitute 15% or more of the total audience, as measured by competent and reliable survey evidence;

(2) At a concert, a stadium, a sporting event, or any other public event for which individuals under the age of 21 years constitute 15% or more of the total audience, as measured by competent and reliable survey evidence; or

(3) [On an outdoor billboard or sign board that is within 500 feet of a school] **BY PLACING AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR KRATOM ON THE SIDE OF A BUILDING OR ANOTHER PUBLICLY VISIBLE LOCATION OF ANY FORM, INCLUDING A SIGN, A POSTER, A PLACARD, A DEVICE, A GRAPHIC DISPLAY, AN OUTDOOR BILLBOARD, OR A FREESTANDING SIGNBOARD.**

(E) A RETAILER THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000, IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 90 DAYS, OR BOTH.

21-2F-02.

(a) (1) A retailer that prepares, distributes, sells, or exposes for sale a phenibut product shall disclose on the product label the factual basis on which any representations regarding the phenibut product are made.

(2) A retailer may not prepare, distribute, sell, or expose for sale a phenibut product that:

(i) Does not comply with the disclosure requirement established under paragraph (1) of this subsection; or

(ii) Has not been recognized as a dietary ingredient or approved drug by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a retailer may not prepare, distribute, sell, or expose for sale any of the following:

(i) A phenibut product that is adulterated with a dangerous substance other than phenibut;



(ii) A phenibut product that is contaminated with a dangerous substance other than phenibut; or

(iii) A product containing phenibut that does not include on its package or label the amount of beta-phenyl-gamma-aminobutyric acid HCl contained in the product.

(2) (i) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection, a phenibut product is adulterated with a dangerous substance other than phenibut if:

1. The phenibut product is mixed or packed with a substance other than phenibut; and

2. That substance affects the quality or strength of the phenibut product to a degree as to render the phenibut product injurious to a consumer.

(ii) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection, a phenibut product is contaminated with a dangerous substance other than phenibut if the phenibut product contains a poisonous or otherwise deleterious ingredient other than phenibut, including a drug that is designated as a controlled dangerous substance under Title 5 of the Criminal Law Article.

(c) A retailer may not distribute, sell, or expose for sale a phenibut product to an individual under the age of 21 years.

(d) ~~In~~ In a prosecution for a violation of this section, it is a **REBUTTABLE** defense that the defendant relied in good faith on the representations ~~of a manufacturer, processor, packer, or distributor of~~ **ON THE MANUFACTURER'S LABEL ON** a phenibut product.

(e) ~~A~~ A retailer that violates subsection (a)(1) of this section is subject to a civil penalty not exceeding:

(1) \$1,000 for a first violation; and

(2) \$2,000 for each subsequent violation.

~~(f)~~ ~~(F)~~ A retailer that violates subsection (a)(2), (b), or (c) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$5,000, imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.

~~(g)~~ ~~(G)~~ In addition to any other penalties specified in this section, a retailer who violates this section is liable for any civil damages sustained by the individual resulting from the violation.

21-2F-03.



(a) A retailer may not directly or indirectly advertise a therapeutic benefit of phenibut.

(b) A retailer may not directly or indirectly advertise or market phenibut products to minors.

(c) It is a violation of subsection (b) of this section for a retailer to use any of the following in the advertising, promotion, packaging, or labeling of a phenibut product:

(1) A cartoon;

(2) A superhero;

(3) A video game reference;

(4) An image of a food product primarily intended for minors;

(5) A trademark that imitates or mimics the trademark of a product that has been advertised or marketed primarily to minors;

(6) A symbol or celebrity that is primarily associated with minors or media primarily directed to minors; [and]

(7) An image of an individual who appears to be under the age of 27 years;

AND

(8) OTHER IMAGES, GRAPHICS, OR FEATURES OR LIKENESSES TO IMAGES, GRAPHICS, OR FEATURES THAT ARE POPULARLY USED TO ADVERTISE TO CHILDREN, INCLUDING:

(I) NEON COLORS, SIGNS, OR OTHER BRIGHTLY COLORED DISPLAYS;

(II) ANIMALS;

(III) MASCOTS; OR

(IV) STATEMENTS, ARTWORK, OR DESIGNS THAT COULD REASONABLY MISLEAD AN INDIVIDUAL TO BELIEVE THAT THE PACKAGE CONTAINS ANYTHING OTHER THAN A PHENIBUT PRODUCT.

(d) It is a violation of subsection (b) of this section for a retailer to advertise or promote a phenibut product:



(1) In a newspaper, a magazine, a periodical, or any other publication for which individuals under the age of 21 years constitute 15% or more of the total audience, as measured by competent and reliable survey evidence;

(2) At a concert, a stadium, a sporting event, or any other public event for which individuals under the age of 21 years constitute 15% or more of the total audience, as measured by competent and reliable survey evidence; or

(3) [On an outdoor billboard or sign board that is within 500 feet of a school] **BY PLACING AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR ~~KRATOM~~ PHENIBUT ON THE SIDE OF A BUILDING OR ANOTHER PUBLICLY VISIBLE LOCATION OF ANY FORM, INCLUDING A SIGN, A POSTER, A PLACARD, A DEVICE, A GRAPHIC DISPLAY, AN OUTDOOR BILLBOARD, OR A FREESTANDING SIGNBOARD.**

(E) A RETAILER THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000, IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 90 DAYS, OR BOTH.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Department of Health shall notify the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission within 30 days after a change is made in the regulatory or approval status of kratom products, tianeptine products, phenibut products, or any other product designated by the Secretary of Health as an unauthorized consumable product for enforcement by the Executive Director of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2026.



Chapter 354

(House Bill 1523)

AN ACT concerning

**Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission – Unauthorized Consumable
Products – Enforcement and Seizure**

FOR the purpose of altering the violations of law with respect to which the Field Enforcement Division of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission is authorized to issue a citation or charging document; prohibiting a retailer from distributing, selling, exposing for sale, or advertising for sale unauthorized consumable products; authorizing the Executive Director of the Commission to seize, confiscate, or destroy unauthorized consumable products and certain other products; establishing and ~~repealing~~ altering certain provisions governing the enforcement of certain prohibitions related to unauthorized consumable products; requiring the Maryland Department of Health to report certain changes related to unauthorized consumable products to the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission within a certain time; and generally relating to enforcement and seizure of unauthorized consumable products by the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 1–313, 6–101, and 6–207
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 1–323
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Health – General
Section 21–2E–02, 21–2E–03, 21–2F–02, and 21–2F–03
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

1–313.



(a) There is a Field Enforcement Division in the Office of the Executive Director.

(b) (1) The Field Enforcement Division may employ officers and employees as provided in the State budget.

(2) The officers and employees of the Field Enforcement Division:

(i) shall be sworn police officers;

(ii) shall have the powers, duties, and responsibilities of peace officers to enforce the provisions of this article relating to:

1. the unlawful importation of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and cannabis into the State;

2. the unlawful manufacture of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and cannabis in the State;

3. the transportation and distribution throughout the State of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and cannabis that are manufactured illegally and on which any alcoholic beverages taxes, tobacco taxes, or cannabis taxes imposed by the State are due and unpaid; and

4. the manufacture, sale, barter, transportation, distribution, or other form of owning, handling, or dispersing alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or cannabis by any person not licensed or authorized under this article, provisions of the Tax – General Article relating to alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or cannabis, or provisions of the Business Regulation Article relating to alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or cannabis;

(iii) may issue a citation or other charging document to a person who has committed a violation of [§ 10–108]:

1. **SECTION 10–108** of the Criminal Law Article;

2. **TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2D OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE;**

3. **TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2E OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; AND**

4. **TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2F OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; and**



(iv) may make cooperative arrangements for and work and cooperate with the Office of the Comptroller, local State’s Attorneys, sheriffs, bailiffs, police, and other prosecuting and peace officers to enforce this article.

(c) The Field Enforcement Division:

(1) shall consult with and advise the local State’s Attorneys and other law enforcement officials and police officers regarding enforcement problems in their respective jurisdictions; and

(2) may recommend changes to improve the administration of this article, provisions of the Tax – General Article relating to alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and cannabis, and provisions of the Business Regulation Article relating to tobacco.

1-323.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “ADVERTISE” INCLUDES PACKAGING, LABELING, OR ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.

(3) (I) “RETAILER” MEANS A PERSON THAT:

1. SELLS, PREPARES, OR MAINTAINS UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS; OR

2. ADVERTISES, REPRESENTS, OR HOLDS ITSELF OUT AS SELLING, PREPARING, OR MAINTAINING UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS.

(II) “RETAILER” INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING PERSONS, IF THE PERSON OTHERWISE MEETS THE DEFINITION ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH:

1. A MANUFACTURER;

2. A WHOLESALER;

3. A STORE;

4. A RESTAURANT;

5. A HOTEL;



- 6. A CATERING FACILITY;
- 7. A CAMP;
- 8. A BAKERY;
- 9. A DELICATESSEN;
- 10. A SUPERMARKET;
- 11. A GROCERY STORE;
- 12. A CONVENIENCE STORE;
- 13. A GAS STATION;
- 14. A FOOD COMPANY; AND
- 15. A DRINK COMPANY.

(4) “UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT” MEANS:

(I) A TIANEPTINE PRODUCT AS DEFINED IN § 21-2D-01 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE;

(II) A KRATOM PRODUCT, AS DEFINED IN § 21-2E-01 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE ~~DESCRIBED IN § 21-2E-02(A)(2) OR § 21-2E-02(B) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE THAT IS ADVERTISED, PROMOTED, PACKAGED, OR LABELED IN A MANNER PROHIBITED UNDER § 21-2E-03 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE~~ THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2E OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE;

(III) A PHENIBUT PRODUCT AS DEFINED IN § 21-2F-01 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE ~~THAT IS DESCRIBED IN § 21-2F-02(A)(2) OR § 21-2F-02(B) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE THAT IS ADVERTISED, PROMOTED, PACKAGED, OR LABELED IN A MANNER PROHIBITED UNDER § 21-2F-03 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE~~ THAT DOES NOT COMPLY WITH TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2F OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; AND

(IV) A CONSUMABLE PRODUCT THAT CONTAINS A POISONOUS OR DELETERIOUS SUBSTANCE IN VIOLATION OF A RULE OR REGULATION ADOPTED



UNDER § 21-239(C) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE AND IS DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH FOR ENFORCEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

(B) A RETAILER MAY NOT DISTRIBUTE, SELL, EXPOSE FOR SALE, OR ADVERTISE FOR SALE AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT.

(C) THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY SEIZE, CONFISCATE, OR DESTROY:

(1) AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT THAT IS OFFERED, ADVERTISED, OR DISPLAYED FOR SALE TO A CONSUMER IN THE STATE; AND

(2) A PRODUCT THAT IS LABELED, ADVERTISED, REPRESENTED, OR OFFERED FOR SALE AS CONTAINING:

~~(I) KRATOM;~~

~~(H) 7-HYDROXYMITRAGYNINE IN AN AMOUNT THAT:~~

1. FOR A KRATOM PRODUCT, IS GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT PERMITTED UNDER § 21-2E-02(B)(1)(III) OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; OR

2. IS GREATER THAN 1 MILLIGRAM PER SERVING;

~~(H) ANY PART OF THE PLANT MITRAGYNA SPECIOSA;~~

~~(IV) (II) TIANEPTINE SODIUM;~~

~~(V) (III) TIANEPTINE SULFATE; OR~~

~~(VI) PHENIBUT; OR~~

~~(VII) (IV) BETA-PHENYL-GAMMA-AMINO BUTYRIC ACID HCL.~~

(D) A PRODUCT SEIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION IS PRESUMED TO BE CONTRABAND AND SUBJECT TO SUMMARY FORFEITURE UNLESS THE PERSON FROM WHOM THE PRODUCT WAS SEIZED DEMONSTRATES THE PRODUCT ~~WAS APPROVED~~ IS:

(1) IF APPLICABLE, IN COMPLIANCE WITH TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2E OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE; OR



(2) AUTHORIZED FOR SALE AND DISTRIBUTION FOR THE PURPOSES OF HUMAN CONSUMPTION BY:

~~(1)~~ **(I) THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH; OR**

~~(2)~~ **(II) THE U.S. FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION.**

(E) A RETAILER THAT VIOLATES SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000.

(F) IN ADDITION TO THE PENALTIES ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SECTION:

(1) THE DISTRICT COURT MAY ORDER THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, THE COMPTROLLER, OR THE APPLICABLE LOCAL LICENSING BOARD OR COMMISSION TO:

(I) SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THIS ARTICLE OR TITLE 16, 16.5, 16.7, OR 17 OF THE BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE; AND

(II) DISPOSE OF OR DESTROY AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT SEIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION; AND

(2) A RETAILER THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS LIABLE FOR CIVIL DAMAGES SUSTAINED BY AN INDIVIDUAL THAT RESULT FROM THE VIOLATION.

6-101.

(a) Alcoholic beverages, UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCTS, AS DEFINED UNDER § 1-323 OF THIS ARTICLE, and other contraband kept, possessed, used, sold, manufactured, stored, or transported in violation of this article:

(1) are subject to seizure and forfeiture; and

(2) when seized, may be recovered or disposed of only as provided in this subtitle.

(b) Property is forfeited if it:

(1) was seized as contraband in the possession or control of a defendant who is found guilty of violating this article; [or]



- (2) is otherwise found to be contraband or in violation of this article; OR
- (3) WAS SEIZED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-323 OF THIS ARTICLE.**

(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, property is forfeited if it:

(i) is seized as contraband and remains unclaimed for 30 days after seizure; and

(ii) has not been destroyed in accordance with this subtitle.

(2) (i) A vehicle, a vessel, or an aircraft that is seized as contraband is forfeited unless a protest is filed within 30 days after the publication under subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph.

(ii) The Comptroller or the Executive Director, as appropriate:

1. if possible, shall notify the registered owner of the property of the seizure; and

2. shall publish a notice:

A. in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the vehicle, vessel, or aircraft was seized; and

B. informing interested persons of the seizure and the right to file a protest.

6-207.

(a) In this section, “tetrahydrocannabinol” has the meaning stated in § 36-1102 of this article.

(b) In a prosecution for selling alcoholic beverages or tetrahydrocannabinol without an appropriate license, proof that the defendant displayed or offered alcoholic beverages or tetrahydrocannabinol for sale, or kept a place of business where alcoholic beverages or tetrahydrocannabinol were displayed or offered for sale, is prima facie evidence that the defendant sold alcoholic beverages or tetrahydrocannabinol.

(C) IN A PROSECUTION FOR A VIOLATION OF § 1-323(B) OF THIS ARTICLE OR A VIOLATION LISTED IN § 1-313(B)(2)(III)2, 3, OR 4 OF THIS ARTICLE, PROOF THAT THE DEFENDANT DISPLAYED OR OFFERED FOR SALE AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT, OR KEPT A PLACE OF BUSINESS WHERE AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT WAS DISPLAYED, ADVERTISED, OR OFFERED FOR SALE, IS



PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE THAT THE DEFENDANT SOLD AN UNAUTHORIZED CONSUMABLE PRODUCT.

Article – Health – General

21–2E–02.

(a) (1) A retailer that prepares, distributes, sells, or exposes for sale a kratom product shall disclose on the product label the factual basis on which the representation is made.

(2) A retailer may not prepare, distribute, sell, or expose for sale a kratom product that:

(i) Does not comply with the disclosure requirement established under paragraph (1) of this subsection; or

(ii) Has not been recognized as a dietary ingredient or approved drug by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a retailer may not prepare, distribute, sell, or expose for sale any of the following:

(i) A kratom product that is adulterated with a dangerous substance other than kratom;

(ii) A kratom product that is contaminated with a dangerous substance other than kratom;

(iii) A kratom product containing a level of 7–hydroxymitragynine in the alkaloid fraction that is greater than 2% of the alkaloid composition of the product;

(iv) A kratom product containing a synthetic alkaloid, including synthetic mitragynine, synthetic 7–hydroxymitragynine, or any other synthetically derived compound of the kratom plant; or

(v) A product containing kratom that does not include on its package or label the amount of mitragynine and 7–hydroxymitragynine contained in the product.

(2) (i) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection, a kratom product is adulterated with a dangerous substance other than kratom if:

1. The kratom product is mixed or packed with a substance other than kratom; and



2. That substance affects the quality or strength of the kratom product to a degree as to render the kratom product injurious to a consumer.

(ii) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection, a kratom product is contaminated with a dangerous substance other than kratom if the kratom product contains a poisonous or otherwise deleterious ingredient other than kratom, including a drug that is designated as a controlled dangerous substance under Title 5 of the Criminal Law Article.

(c) A retailer may not distribute, sell, or expose for sale a kratom product to an individual under the age of 21 years.

(d) ~~In a prosecution for a violation of this section, it is a~~ **REBUTTABLE** defense that the defendant relied in good faith on the representations ~~of a manufacturer, processor, packer, or distributor of~~ **ON THE MANUFACTURER'S LABEL ON** a kratom product.

(e) ~~A~~ A retailer that violates subsection (a)(1) of this section is subject to a civil penalty not exceeding:

- (1) \$1,000 for a first violation; and
- (2) \$2,000 for each subsequent violation.

~~(f) (E)~~ A retailer that violates subsection (a)(2), (b), or (c) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$5,000, imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.

~~(g) (F)~~ In addition to any other penalties specified in this section, a retailer who violates this section is liable for any civil damages sustained by the individual resulting from the violation.

21-2E-03.

(a) A retailer may not directly or indirectly advertise a therapeutic benefit of kratom.

(b) A retailer may not directly or indirectly advertise or market kratom products to minors.

(c) It is a violation of subsection (b) of this section for a retailer to use any of the following in the advertising, promotion, packaging, or labeling of a kratom product:

- (1) A cartoon;
- (2) A superhero;



- (3) A video game reference;
- (4) An image of a food product primarily intended for minors;
- (5) A trademark that imitates or mimics the trademark of a product that has been advertised or marketed primarily to minors;
- (6) A symbol or celebrity that is primarily associated with minors or media primarily directed to minors; [and]
- (7) An image of an individual who appears to be under the age of 27 years;

AND

(8) OTHER IMAGES, GRAPHICS, OR FEATURES OR LIKENESSES TO IMAGES, GRAPHICS, OR FEATURES THAT ARE POPULARLY USED TO ADVERTISE TO CHILDREN, INCLUDING:

(I) NEON COLORS, SIGNS, OR OTHER BRIGHTLY COLORED DISPLAYS;

(II) ANIMALS;

(III) MASCOTS; OR

(IV) STATEMENTS, ARTWORK, OR DESIGNS THAT COULD REASONABLY MISLEAD AN INDIVIDUAL TO BELIEVE THAT THE PACKAGE CONTAINS ANYTHING OTHER THAN A KRATOM PRODUCT.

(d) It is a violation of subsection (b) of this section for a retailer to advertise or promote a kratom product:

(1) In a newspaper, a magazine, a periodical, or any other publication for which individuals under the age of 21 years constitute 15% or more of the total audience, as measured by competent and reliable survey evidence;

(2) At a concert, a stadium, a sporting event, or any other public event for which individuals under the age of 21 years constitute 15% or more of the total audience, as measured by competent and reliable survey evidence; or

(3) **[On an outdoor billboard or sign board that is within 500 feet of a school] BY PLACING AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR KRATOM ON THE SIDE OF A BUILDING OR ANOTHER PUBLICLY VISIBLE LOCATION OF ANY FORM, INCLUDING A SIGN, A POSTER, A PLACARD, A DEVICE, A GRAPHIC DISPLAY, AN OUTDOOR BILLBOARD, OR A FREESTANDING SIGNBOARD.**



(E) A RETAILER THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000, IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 90 DAYS, OR BOTH.

21-2F-02.

(a) (1) A retailer that prepares, distributes, sells, or exposes for sale a phenibut product shall disclose on the product label the factual basis on which any representations regarding the phenibut product are made.

(2) A retailer may not prepare, distribute, sell, or expose for sale a phenibut product that:

(i) Does not comply with the disclosure requirement established under paragraph (1) of this subsection; or

(ii) Has not been recognized as a dietary ingredient or approved drug by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, a retailer may not prepare, distribute, sell, or expose for sale any of the following:

(i) A phenibut product that is adulterated with a dangerous substance other than phenibut;

(ii) A phenibut product that is contaminated with a dangerous substance other than phenibut; or

(iii) A product containing phenibut that does not include on its package or label the amount of beta-phenyl-gamma-aminobutyric acid HCl contained in the product.

(2) (i) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(i) of this subsection, a phenibut product is adulterated with a dangerous substance other than phenibut if:

1. The phenibut product is mixed or packed with a substance other than phenibut; and

2. That substance affects the quality or strength of the phenibut product to a degree as to render the phenibut product injurious to a consumer.

(ii) For the purpose of paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection, a phenibut product is contaminated with a dangerous substance other than phenibut if the phenibut product contains a poisonous or otherwise deleterious ingredient other than phenibut,



including a drug that is designated as a controlled dangerous substance under Title 5 of the Criminal Law Article.

(c) A retailer may not distribute, sell, or expose for sale a phenibut product to an individual under the age of 21 years.

(d) ~~In a prosecution for a violation of this section, it is a~~ **REBUTTABLE** defense that the defendant relied in good faith on the representations ~~of a manufacturer, processor, packer, or distributor of~~ **ON THE MANUFACTURER'S LABEL ON** a phenibut product.

(e) A retailer that violates subsection (a)(1) of this section is subject to a civil penalty not exceeding:

- (1) \$1,000 for a first violation; and
- (2) \$2,000 for each subsequent violation.

~~(f)~~ ~~(F)~~ A retailer that violates subsection (a)(2), (b), or (c) of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$5,000, imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.

~~(g)~~ ~~(G)~~ In addition to any other penalties specified in this section, a retailer who violates this section is liable for any civil damages sustained by the individual resulting from the violation.

21-2F-03.

(a) A retailer may not directly or indirectly advertise a therapeutic benefit of phenibut.

(b) A retailer may not directly or indirectly advertise or market phenibut products to minors.

(c) It is a violation of subsection (b) of this section for a retailer to use any of the following in the advertising, promotion, packaging, or labeling of a phenibut product:

- (1) A cartoon;
- (2) A superhero;
- (3) A video game reference;
- (4) An image of a food product primarily intended for minors;
- (5) A trademark that imitates or mimics the trademark of a product that has been advertised or marketed primarily to minors;



(6) A symbol or celebrity that is primarily associated with minors or media primarily directed to minors; [and]

(7) An image of an individual who appears to be under the age of 27 years;
AND

(8) OTHER IMAGES, GRAPHICS, OR FEATURES OR LIKENESSES TO IMAGES, GRAPHICS, OR FEATURES THAT ARE POPULARLY USED TO ADVERTISE TO CHILDREN, INCLUDING:

(I) NEON COLORS, SIGNS, OR OTHER BRIGHTLY COLORED DISPLAYS;

(II) ANIMALS;

(III) MASCOTS; OR

(IV) STATEMENTS, ARTWORK, OR DESIGNS THAT COULD REASONABLY MISLEAD AN INDIVIDUAL TO BELIEVE THAT THE PACKAGE CONTAINS ANYTHING OTHER THAN A PHENIBUT PRODUCT.

(d) It is a violation of subsection (b) of this section for a retailer to advertise or promote a phenibut product:

(1) In a newspaper, a magazine, a periodical, or any other publication for which individuals under the age of 21 years constitute 15% or more of the total audience, as measured by competent and reliable survey evidence;

(2) At a concert, a stadium, a sporting event, or any other public event for which individuals under the age of 21 years constitute 15% or more of the total audience, as measured by competent and reliable survey evidence; or

(3) [On an outdoor billboard or sign board that is within 500 feet of a school] **BY PLACING AN ADVERTISEMENT FOR ~~KRATOM~~ PHENIBUT ON THE SIDE OF A BUILDING OR ANOTHER PUBLICLY VISIBLE LOCATION OF ANY FORM, INCLUDING A SIGN, A POSTER, A PLACARD, A DEVICE, A GRAPHIC DISPLAY, AN OUTDOOR BILLBOARD, OR A FREESTANDING SIGNBOARD.**

(E) A RETAILER THAT VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000, IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 90 DAYS, OR BOTH.



SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Department of Health shall notify the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission within 30 days after a change is made in the regulatory or approval status of kratom products, tianeptine products, phenibut products, or any other product designated by the Secretary of Health as an unauthorized consumable product *for enforcement by the Executive Director of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission.*

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Class C (Veterans' Organization) Licenses - Membership

SB0076

HB0727



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-1009(b)



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Expands eligibility for a Class C (veterans' organization) license in Anne Arundel County by replacing "armed forces" with "uniformed services," and removing the requirement that organization members have served in a war.
- This allows NOAA and Public Health Service member organizations to be eligible for the license.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 818

(Senate Bill 76)

AN ACT concerning

**Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class C (Veterans’ Organization)
Licenses – Membership**

FOR the purpose of altering the membership criteria for a Class C (veterans’ organization) alcoholic beverages license in Anne Arundel County to include certain members of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service; repealing a requirement that members of the veterans’ organization served in a war; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102 and 11–1009(a) and (c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1009(b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1009.

(a) There is a Class C (veterans’ organization) license.

(b) The Board shall issue the license for use by a local unit of a nationwide nonprofit organization or club that:



(1) is composed only of members who served in the [armed forces of the United States in a war in which the United States has been engaged] **UNIFORMED SERVICES;**

(2) has a charter from a national veterans' organization that was granted before the application for the license was made;

(3) has a bona fide membership of at least 100 individuals and dues of at least \$5 per year per individual; and

(4) operates for its members and meets in a clubhouse principally used for its members.

(c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor at retail at the place described in the license for on-premises consumption, including:

(i) during an event held on the licensed premises; and

(ii) to a member of the veterans' organization or a guest of the member.

(2) If the license holder hosts an event for an outside group, the outside group shall obtain a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license from the Board.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 819

(House Bill 727)

AN ACT concerning

**Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class C (Veterans’ Organization)
Licenses – Membership**

FOR the purpose of altering the membership criteria for a Class C (veterans’ organization) alcoholic beverages license in Anne Arundel County to include certain members of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Public Health Service; repealing a requirement that members of the veterans’ organization served in a war; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102 and 11–1009(a) and (c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1009(b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1009.

(a) There is a Class C (veterans’ organization) license.

(b) The Board shall issue the license for use by a local unit of a nationwide nonprofit organization or club that:



(1) is composed only of members who served in the [armed forces of the United States in a war in which the United States has been engaged] **UNIFORMED SERVICES**;

(2) has a charter from a national veterans' organization that was granted before the application for the license was made;

(3) has a bona fide membership of at least 100 individuals and dues of at least \$5 per year per individual; and

(4) operates for its members and meets in a clubhouse principally used for its members.

(c) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor at retail at the place described in the license for on-premises consumption, including:

(i) during an event held on the licensed premises; and

(ii) to a member of the veterans' organization or a guest of the member.

(2) If the license holder hosts an event for an outside group, the outside group shall obtain a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license from the Board.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Board of License Commissioners - Chief Inspector - Compensation

SB0396



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-204(b)(2)



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Raises the salary range for the Chief Inspector employed by the Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners from NR-5 (\$36,378 - \$67,252) to NR-12 (\$51,405 - \$95,304).

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 856

(Senate Bill 396)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Board of License Commissioners – Chief Inspector – Compensation

FOR the purpose of increasing the minimum and maximum salary amounts for the chief inspector employed by the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages and the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–204(b)(2)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–204.

(b) (2) The Board shall employ:

(i) a full–time executive director whose annual salary shall be fixed by the Board as in a general county classified salary schedule, within pay grade 17;

(ii) a full–time administrator whose annual salary shall be fixed by the Board as in a general county classified salary schedule, within pay grade 16;

(iii) two full–time secretaries whose annual salaries shall be fixed by the Board as in a general county classified salary schedule, within pay grade 13;



(iv) a full-time chief inspector whose annual salary shall be fixed by the Board as in a general county classified salary schedule, within non-represented pay schedule [NR-05] ~~NR-15~~ NR-12; and

(v) an attorney at an annual salary of \$60,000.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Board of License Commissioners - Alterations

SB0398

HB0874



STATUTES AFFECTED:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-202(a) and (b), and Section 11-210



EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 1, 2026, and the terms of the two additional Board members begin May 2, 2026.

SUMMARY

- Expands the Board of License Commissioners from three to five members.
- Requires the Governor to appoint Board members from a list recommended by the Anne Arundel County House and Senate delegations.
- Allows the Governor to request a new list of recommended candidates from the county delegations at any time.
- Subjects any recess appointment to the Senate’s advice and consent when the Senate next convenes.
- Raises the cap on Board members from the same political party from two to three.
- Limits Board membership to no more than two residents from the same state legislative district.
- Directs the Board to adopt and publish a written policy governing conflicts of interest and the recusal of members from Board matters.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 831

(Senate Bill 398)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Board of License Commissioners – Alterations

FOR the purpose of increasing the membership of the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; requiring the Governor to appoint members to the Board from a list of individuals recommended by the Anne Arundel County delegations to the General Assembly; altering the eligibility requirements for Board membership; requiring the Board to adopt and publish a certain ethics policy; and generally relating to the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–202(a) and (b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–210
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–202.

(a) (1) **[The] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
Governor shall appoint **[three] FIVE** members to the Board.



(2) The appointments shall be made:

(i) if the Senate is in session, with the advice and consent of the Senate; or

(ii) if the Senate is not in session, by the Governor alone, **SUBJECT TO THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE WHEN THE SENATE NEXT CONVENES.**

(3) (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT THE MEMBERS OF THE BOARD FROM A LIST OF INDIVIDUALS RECOMMENDED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY HOUSE AND SENATE DELEGATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

(II) THE GOVERNOR MAY REQUEST A NEW LIST OF RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH AT ANY TIME.

(b) (1) Each member of the Board shall be:

(i) a resident and voter of the county; and

(ii) an individual of high character and integrity and of recognized business capacity.

(2) No more than [two] **THREE** members of the Board may belong to the same political party.

(3) NO MORE THAN TWO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD MAY BE RESIDENTS OF THE SAME STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT.

11-210.

THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT AND PUBLISH A WRITTEN POLICY RELATED TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND THE RECUSAL OF BOARD MEMBERS FROM BOARD MATTERS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the initial terms of the two additional members of the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall begin May 2, 2027.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 830

(House Bill 874)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Board of License Commissioners – Alterations

FOR the purpose of increasing the membership of the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; requiring the Governor to appoint members to the Board from a list of individuals recommended by the Anne Arundel County delegations to the General Assembly; altering the eligibility requirements for Board membership; requiring the Board to adopt and publish a certain ethics policy; and generally relating to the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–202(a) and (b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–210
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–202.

(a) (1) **[The] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
Governor shall appoint **[three] FIVE** members to the Board.



Chapter 830

(House Bill 874)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Board of License Commissioners – Alterations

FOR the purpose of increasing the membership of the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; requiring the Governor to appoint members to the Board from a list of individuals recommended by the Anne Arundel County delegations to the General Assembly; altering the eligibility requirements for Board membership; requiring the Board to adopt and publish a certain ethics policy; and generally relating to the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–202(a) and (b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–210
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–202.

(a) (1) **[The] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE**
Governor shall appoint **[three] FIVE** members to the Board.



Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Class C Per Diem License Fees

SB0399

HB0522



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-311



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Restructures the fee schedule for Class C per diem alcoholic beverage licenses issued by the Board of License Commissioners
- Events with fewer than 500 attendees:
 - Preserves the existing flat-rate fees.
 - A Class C per diem beer license or beer and wine license costs \$25 per day, and a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license costs \$50 per day.
- Events with 500 or more attendees:
 - Introduces a new fee structure based on the number of service areas at the event.
 - Organizers pay \$25 per day for each point-of-sale location serving alcohol under a Class C per diem beer or beer and wine license, and
 - \$50 per day for each point-of-sale location serving alcohol under a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 857

(Senate Bill 399)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Class C Per Diem License Fees

FOR the purpose of altering the license fee structure for Class C per diem beer, beer and wine, and beer, wine, and liquor licenses issued by the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1311
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1311.

(a) **[The] FOR AN EVENT WITH AN ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE OF FEWER THAN 500 INDIVIDUALS:**

(1) THE fee for a Class C per diem beer license and a Class C per diem beer and wine license is \$25 per day[.]; **AND**

[(b) (2) [The] THE fee for a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license is \$50 per day.



(B) FOR AN EVENT WITH AN ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE OF 500 OR MORE INDIVIDUALS:

(1) THE FEE FOR A CLASS C PER DIEM BEER LICENSE AND A CLASS C PER DIEM BEER AND WINE LICENSE IS \$25 PER POINT OF SALE LOCATION THAT SERVES ALCOHOL AT THE EVENT PER DAY; AND

(2) THE FEE FOR A CLASS C PER DIEM BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE IS \$50 PER POINT OF SALE LOCATION THAT SERVES ALCOHOL AT THE EVENT PER DAY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 858

(House Bill 522)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Class C Per Diem License Fees

FOR the purpose of altering the license fee structure for Class C per diem beer, beer and wine, and beer, wine, and liquor licenses issued by the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1311
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1311.

(a) [The] **FOR AN EVENT WITH AN ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE OF FEWER THAN 500 INDIVIDUALS:**

(1) THE fee for a Class C per diem beer license and a Class C per diem beer and wine license is \$25 per day[.]; **AND**

[(b) (2) [The] THE fee for a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license is \$50 per day.



(B) FOR AN EVENT WITH AN ESTIMATED ATTENDANCE OF 500 OR MORE INDIVIDUALS:

(1) THE FEE FOR A CLASS C PER DIEM BEER LICENSE AND A CLASS C PER DIEM BEER AND WINE LICENSE IS \$25 PER POINT OF SALE LOCATION THAT SERVES ALCOHOL AT THE EVENT PER DAY; AND

(2) THE FEE FOR A CLASS C PER DIEM BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE IS \$50 PER POINT OF SALE LOCATION THAT SERVES ALCOHOL AT THE EVENT PER DAY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Entertainment Permits

SB0400
HB0519

STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-1102(a), (b), (c), and (d)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

SUMMARY

- This bill restructures the entertainment permit structure for Anne Arundel County alcohol licenses.
- The amended system creates 3 classes of entertainment permit:
 - Background Entertainment Permit
 - Allows license holders to have more than one television or to have “piped-in background music.”
 - General Entertainment Permit
 - Incorporates all entertainment allowed under the Background Entertainment Permit and adds live music with up to four musicians.
 - Authorizes trivia games, a karaoke machine, and music played by a disc jockey.
 - Full Entertainment Permit
 - Permits all entertainment allowed under the General Entertainment Permit, plus music, a permanent dance floor, a stage area, floor shows, and other legal forms of entertainment.
 - Requires outdoor entertainment to occur at least 100 feet from any residentially zoned property.
- Requires outdoor entertainment to occur at least 100 feet from any residentially zoned property.
- A permit is no longer required for dancing.
- Outdoor entertainment under a permit can only occur 100 feet or more from any residentially zoned property.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 855

(Senate Bill 400)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Entertainment Permits

FOR the purpose of altering the titles of certain entertainment permits for certain alcoholic beverages license holders in Anne Arundel County; altering the authorized forms of entertainment that certain entertainment permit holders in the county may provide; adding a certain zoning requirement for residential property applicable to certain entertainment permit holders in the county; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages entertainment permits in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1102(a), (b), (c), and (d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1102.

(a) (1) On the premises, or on adjacent property over which a license holder has ownership or control, a license holder:

but (i) may allow piped-in background music or one television screen;

(ii) unless issued a permit described in this section that authorizes the activity, may not allow:



1. the playing of music, including live music;

2. the operation of a karaoke machine;

3. the playing of music by a disc jockey; or

4. [dancing,] floor shows[,] or any other similar type of entertainment.

(2) The Board may issue a permit described in this section only if the Board finds that:

(i) the applicant can control the individuals using the licensed premises;

(ii) the operation of the premises under the permit will not unduly disturb the peace of the residents of the neighborhood in which the place of business is located; and

(iii) the issuing of the permit:

1. is necessary to accommodate the public;

2. will not be detrimental to the public welfare; and

3. will not violate a county fire, health, or building regulation.

(b) (1) There is a [music] **BACKGROUND ENTERTAINMENT** permit.

(2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of a Class B license, a Class BLX license, a Class D license, or a Class H license.

(3) The permit authorizes the playing of:

(I) MORE THAN ONE TELEVISION; AND

(II) recorded music or [live music with not more than two musicians] PIPED-IN BACKGROUND MUSIC.

(4) The permit holder may not allow [dancing,] floor shows[,] or similar live entertainment.

(5) The annual permit fee is \$100.



- (c) (1) There is [an] **A GENERAL** entertainment permit.
- (2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of a Class B license, a Class BLX license, a Class D license, or a Class H license.
- (3) The permit authorizes:
 - (i) **THE HOLDER TO PROVIDE THE ENTERTAINMENT ALLOWED UNDER A BACKGROUND ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT;**
 - (ii) ~~(i)~~ **(II)** live music with not more than four musicians; and
 - ~~(iii)~~ **(III)** the playing of:
 - 1. ~~[more than one television]~~ **TRIVIA GAMES;**
 - 2. a karaoke machine; and
 - 3. music by a disc jockey.
- (4) **(I)** The permit holder may not allow [dancing,] floor shows[,] or similar live entertainment.
 - (II) IF THE ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION WILL OCCUR OUTSIDE, THE AREA USED FOR THE EVENT SHALL BE AT LEAST 100 FEET FROM ANY RESIDENTIALLY ZONED PROPERTY.**
- (5) The annual permit fees are:
 - (i) \$200 for a holder of a beer and wine license; and
 - (ii) \$300 for a holder of a beer, wine, and liquor license.
- (d) (1) There is a [dancing] **FULL ENTERTAINMENT** permit.
- (2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of:
 - (i) a Class B license;
 - (ii) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, a Class BLX license;
 - (iii) a Class C license;
 - (iv) a Class D license; or



(v) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, a Class H license.

(3) The permit authorizes the holder to provide:

(I) THE ENTERTAINMENT ALLOWED UNDER A GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT; AND

(II) music, [dancing] A PERMANENT DANCE FLOOR, A STAGE AREA, FLOOR SHOWS, and other legal forms of entertainment.

(4) (i) The Board may not issue the permit to a holder of a Class BLX license or a Class H license if the premises for which the Class BLX license or Class H license is issued is within 1,000 feet in a straight line from entry to entry from a place of worship or school.

(ii) Notwithstanding subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Board may issue the permit to the holder of a Class H license if the licensed premises is located within 1,000 feet in a straight line from entry to entry from a school located at the Annapolis Mall.

(III) IF THE ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION WILL OCCUR OUTSIDE, THE AREA USED FOR THE EVENT SHALL BE AT LEAST 100 FEET FROM ANY RESIDENTIALLY ZONED PROPERTY.

(5) The annual permit fees are:

(i) \$200 for a holder of a beer and wine license;

(ii) \$400 for a holder of a beer, wine, and liquor license; and

(iii) no charge for a holder of a Class C license.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 854

(House Bill 519)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Entertainment Permits

FOR the purpose of altering the titles of certain entertainment permits for certain alcoholic beverages license holders in Anne Arundel County; altering the authorized forms of entertainment that certain entertainment permit holders in the county may provide; adding a certain zoning requirement for residential property applicable to certain entertainment permit holders in the county; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages entertainment permits in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1102(a), (b), (c), and (d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1102.

(a) (1) On the premises, or on adjacent property over which a license holder has ownership or control, a license holder:

but (i) may allow piped-in background music or one television screen;

(ii) unless issued a permit described in this section that authorizes the activity, may not allow:



entertainment.

1. the playing of music, including live music;
2. the operation of a karaoke machine;
3. the playing of music by a disc jockey; or
4. [dancing,] floor shows[,] or any other similar type of

(2) The Board may issue a permit described in this section only if the Board finds that:

(i) the applicant can control the individuals using the licensed premises;

(ii) the operation of the premises under the permit will not unduly disturb the peace of the residents of the neighborhood in which the place of business is located; and

(iii) the issuing of the permit:

1. is necessary to accommodate the public;
2. will not be detrimental to the public welfare; and
3. will not violate a county fire, health, or building

regulation.

(b) (1) There is a [music] **BACKGROUND ENTERTAINMENT** permit.

(2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of a Class B license, a Class BLX license, a Class D license, or a Class H license.

(3) The permit authorizes the playing of:

(I) MORE THAN ONE TELEVISION; AND

(II) recorded music or [live music with not more than two musicians] PIPED-IN BACKGROUND MUSIC.

(4) The permit holder may not allow [dancing,] floor shows[,] or similar live entertainment.

(5) The annual permit fee is \$100.



- (c) (1) There is [an] **A GENERAL** entertainment permit.
- (2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of a Class B license, a Class BLX license, a Class D license, or a Class H license.
- (3) The permit authorizes:
 - (i) **THE HOLDER TO PROVIDE THE ENTERTAINMENT ALLOWED UNDER A BACKGROUND ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT;**
 - (ii) **(II)** live music with not more than four musicians; and
 - [(ii)] (III)** the playing of:
 - 1. **[more than one television] TRIVIA GAMES;**
 - 2. a karaoke machine; and
 - 3. music by a disc jockey.
- (4) **(I)** The permit holder may not allow [dancing,] floor shows[,] or similar live entertainment.
 - (II) IF THE ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION WILL OCCUR OUTSIDE, THE AREA USED FOR THE EVENT SHALL BE AT LEAST 100 FEET FROM ANY RESIDENTIALLY ZONED PROPERTY.**
- (5) The annual permit fees are:
 - (i) \$200 for a holder of a beer and wine license; and
 - (ii) \$300 for a holder of a beer, wine, and liquor license.
- (d) (1) There is a [dancing] **FULL ENTERTAINMENT** permit.
- (2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of:
 - (i) a Class B license;
 - (ii) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, a Class BLX license;
 - (iii) a Class C license;
 - (iv) a Class D license; or



(v) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, a Class H license.

(3) The permit authorizes the holder to provide:

(I) THE ENTERTAINMENT ALLOWED UNDER A GENERAL ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT; AND

(II) music, [dancing] A PERMANENT DANCE FLOOR, A STAGE AREA, FLOOR SHOWS, and other legal forms of entertainment.

(4) (i) The Board may not issue the permit to a holder of a Class BLX license or a Class H license if the premises for which the Class BLX license or Class H license is issued is within 1,000 feet in a straight line from entry to entry from a place of worship or school.

(ii) Notwithstanding subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Board may issue the permit to the holder of a Class H license if the licensed premises is located within 1,000 feet in a straight line from entry to entry from a school located at the Annapolis Mall.

(III) IF THE ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER PARAGRAPH (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION WILL OCCUR OUTSIDE, THE AREA USED FOR THE EVENT SHALL BE AT LEAST 100 FEET FROM ANY RESIDENTIALLY ZONED PROPERTY.

(5) The annual permit fees are:

(i) \$200 for a holder of a beer and wine license;

(ii) \$400 for a holder of a beer, wine, and liquor license; and

(iii) no charge for a holder of a Class C license.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Board of License Commissioners and Part-Time Inspectors - Compensation

SB0401
HB0512

STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-101(a), (b), and 11-102

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Raises the Board chair’s minimum annual salary from \$18,000 to \$21,240 and other Board members’ minimum salary from \$15,000 to \$17,700, converting both from a maximum cap to a minimum floor.
- Requires all Board salaries to include any cost-of-living increase given to nonrepresented Anne Arundel County employees.
- Sets the part-time deputy chief inspector’s annual salary at not less than \$18,000, and raises each of the 18 part-time inspectors’ salaries from \$7,000 to not less than \$8,260, both including any applicable cost-of-living increase.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 852

(Senate Bill 401)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Board of License Commissioners and Part-Time Inspectors – Compensation

FOR the purpose of increasing the annual salaries and providing for cost-of-living salary increases for the chair, certain part-time inspectors, and other members of the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages and the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–101(a) and (b) and 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–204(a) and 11–206(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–101.

(a) In this title:

(1) the definitions in § 1–101 of this article apply without exception or variation; and

(2) the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “Board” means the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.



11-204.

(a) (1) The chair of the Board shall receive:

(I) an annual salary [of] **THAT:**

1. IS not [more] **LESS** than [~~\$18,000~~] **\$21,240**; and

2. **INCLUDES ANY COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE AVAILABLE TO NONREPRESENTED ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY EMPLOYEES; AND**

(II) reimbursement for expenses reasonably incurred.

(2) Each other member of the Board shall receive:

(I) an annual salary [of] **THAT:**

1. IS not [more] **LESS** than [~~\$15,000~~] **\$17,700**; and

2. **INCLUDES ANY COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE AVAILABLE TO NONREPRESENTED ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY EMPLOYEES; AND**

(II) reimbursement for expenses reasonably incurred.

11-206.

(a) (1) The Board may employ:

(i) one part-time deputy chief inspector at an annual salary [of]

THAT:

1. **IS NOT LESS THAN \$18,000**; and

2. **INCLUDES ANY COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE AVAILABLE TO NONREPRESENTED ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY EMPLOYEES; AND**

(ii) 18 part-time inspectors at an annual salary [of \$7,000] **THAT:**

1. **IS NOT LESS THAN \$8,260 each; AND**

2. **INCLUDES ANY COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE AVAILABLE TO NONREPRESENTED ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY EMPLOYEES.**



(2) Each inspector shall receive a monthly expense allowance of \$300, subject to the approval of the Executive Director.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 853

(House Bill 512)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Board of License Commissioners and Part-Time Inspectors – Compensation

FOR the purpose of increasing the annual salaries and providing for cost-of-living salary increases for the chair, certain part-time inspectors, and other members of the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages and the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–101(a) and (b) and 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–204(a) and 11–206(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–101.

(a) In this title:

(1) the definitions in § 1–101 of this article apply without exception or variation; and

(2) the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “Board” means the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.



11-204.

(a) (1) The chair of the Board shall receive:

(I) an annual salary [of] THAT:

1. IS not [more] LESS than [\$18,000] \$21,240; and

2. INCLUDES ANY COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE AVAILABLE TO NONREPRESENTED ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY NONREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES; AND

(II) reimbursement for expenses reasonably incurred.

(2) Each other member of the Board shall receive:

(I) an annual salary [of] THAT:

1. IS not [more] LESS than [\$15,000] \$17,700; and

2. INCLUDES ANY COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE AVAILABLE TO NONREPRESENTED ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY NONREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES; AND

(II) reimbursement for expenses reasonably incurred.

11-206.

(a) (1) The Board may employ:

(i) one part-time deputy chief inspector at an annual salary [of]

THAT:

1. IS NOT LESS THAN \$18,000; and

2. INCLUDES ANY COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE AVAILABLE TO NONREPRESENTED ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY NONREPRESENTED EMPLOYEES; AND

(ii) 18 part-time inspectors at an annual salary [of \$7,000] THAT:

1. IS NOT LESS THAN \$8,260 each; AND



2. INCLUDES ANY COST-OF-LIVING INCREASE AVAILABLE TO NONREPRESENTED ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY ~~NONREPRESENTED~~ EMPLOYEES.

(2) Each inspector shall receive a monthly expense allowance of \$300, subject to the approval of the Executive Director.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Consumption-Only Nonprofit Swim Club License

SB0414



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-1006.3



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Establishes a new consumption-only nonprofit swim club license in Anne Arundel County.
- Authorizes the Board of License Commissioners to issue the license to a nonprofit swim club.
- Allows members and their guests to bring beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption.
- Restricts consumption to a designated area during a designated event, up to 5 days per year, unless the Board authorizes additional days.
- Requires the license holder to notify the Board at least 10 days before a designated event.
- Limits consumption during designated events to the hours of 2 p.m. to 10 p.m.
- Sets the annual license fee at \$100 and charges \$50 per additional day, up to a maximum of 3 additional days.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 829

(Senate Bill 414)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Consumption–Only Nonprofit Swim Club License

FOR the purpose of establishing a consumption–only nonprofit swim club license in Anne Arundel County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County to issue the license to a nonprofit swim club in Anne Arundel County; authorizing the license holder to allow the consumption of beer, wine, and liquor during certain designated events; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1006.3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1006.3.

- (A) THERE IS A CONSUMPTION–ONLY NONPROFIT SWIM CLUB LICENSE.**
- (B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE TO A NONPROFIT SWIM CLUB.**
- (C) (1) THE LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE LICENSE HOLDER TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE SWIM CLUB AND THEIR GUESTS TO BRING BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR ONTO THE LICENSED PREMISES FOR ON–PREMISES CONSUMPTION.**



(2) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY ALLOW THE CONSUMPTION OF BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR:

(I) IN A DESIGNATED AREA OF THE SWIM CLUB;

(II) DURING A DESIGNATED EVENT; AND

(III) UP TO 5 DAYS PER YEAR, UNLESS ADDITIONAL DAYS ARE AUTHORIZED BY THE BOARD.

(D) THE LICENSE HOLDER SHALL PROVIDE NOTICE TO THE BOARD AT LEAST 10 DAYS PRIOR TO A DESIGNATED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOL WILL BE CONSUMED.

(E) DURING A DESIGNATED EVENT, THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY ALLOW THE CONSUMPTION OF BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR IN THE DESIGNATED AREA FROM 2 P.M. TO 10 P.M.

(F) (1) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEE IS \$100.

(2) THE FEE FOR ADDITIONAL DAYS IS \$50 PER DAY, UP TO A MAXIMUM OF 3 ADDITIONAL DAYS.


SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Golf Course License and Sports Activity Venue Licenses

SB0441
HB0682

 **STATUTES AFFECTED:** Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-1006.2 and 11-1008.2

 **EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2026

SUMMARY

- Establishes a new Class GC license authorizing holders to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption at golf courses with at least nine holes.
 - Authorizes the Board of License Commissioners to issue the license and impose location-based conditions, including prohibiting sales in specific areas.
 - Permits sales Monday through Sunday, 6 a.m. to 2 a.m., without a separate Sunday permit, but allows the Board to reduce hours or days.
 - Sets the annual license fee at \$1,200.
- Creates two new licenses for commercial recreational facilities: a Sports Activity Venue Beer and Wine License and a Sports Activity Venue Beer, Wine, and Liquor License.
 - Covers venues offering bowling, golf simulators, multisport simulators, indoor or outdoor pickleball courts, indoor gymnasiums or training centers, or similar sports activities.
 - Restricts sales and service to designated areas—activity zones, seating, bar service, dining, and private party rooms—per a Board-approved site plan.
 - Limits sales to customers at least 21 years old who are using the venue’s recreational services, dining, or accompanying a participant as a guest.
 - Requires license holders to offer prepared food during all hours alcohol is sold.
 - Mandates certified alcohol awareness training for all servers, a written policy limiting service to customers engaged in physical activity, and a crowd control training certificate when occupancy exceeds 50 persons.
 - Permits sales Monday through Sunday, 6 a.m. to 2 a.m., without a separate Sunday license.
 - Sets annual fees at \$740 for the beer and wine license and \$1,200 for the beer, wine, and liquor license.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 851

(Senate Bill 441)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Golf Course License and Sports Activity Venue Licenses

FOR the purpose of establishing in Anne Arundel County a Class ~~€~~ GC (golf course) license that authorizes the holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on–premises consumption at a certain golf course; establishing in Anne Arundel County sports activity venue licenses that authorize the holder to sell beer and wine or beer, wine, and liquor for on–premises consumption at a certain sports activity venue; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY renumbering

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1006.2
to be Section 11–1006.3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1006.2 and 11–1008.2
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 11–1006.2 of Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 11–1006.3.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.



11-1006.2.

(A) THERE IS A CLASS ~~€~~ GC (GOLF COURSE) LICENSE.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE FOR USE AT A GOLF COURSE WITH AT LEAST NINE HOLES.

(C) THE LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE LICENSE HOLDER TO SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR AT RETAIL AT THE PLACE DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION.

(D) THE BOARD MAY PLACE CONDITIONS ON THE LOCATION OF SALES AND CONSUMPTION, INCLUDING PROHIBITING THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR IN SPECIFIC AREAS OF THE PREMISES.

(E) (1) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE HOLDER OF THE LICENSE MAY SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR ON MONDAY THROUGH SUNDAY FROM 6 A.M. TO 2 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

(II) THE HOLDER OF THE LICENSE NEED NOT OBTAIN A SUNDAY PERMIT UNDER § 11-2004 OF THIS TITLE TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON SUNDAY.

(2) THE BOARD MAY REDUCE THE HOURS AND DAYS OF SALE FOR ALL OR PART OF THE LICENSED PREMISES.

(F) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEE IS \$1,200.

11-1008.2.

(A) THERE IS:

(1) A SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER AND WINE LICENSE; AND

(2) A SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A LICENSE TO THE OWNER OR OPERATOR OF A COMMERCIAL RECREATIONAL FACILITY THAT OFFERS:

(1) BOWLING;

(2) GOLF SIMULATORS;



- (3) MULTISPORT SIMULATORS;
- (4) INDOOR OR OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL COURTS;
- (5) INDOOR GYMNASIUMS OR TRAINING CENTERS; OR
- (6) ANY SIMILAR SPORT ACTIVITY OR VENUE.

(C) (1) THE SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER AND WINE LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL BEER AND WINE AT RETAIL AT THE PLACE DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION.

(2) THE SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR AT RETAIL AT THE PLACE DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION.

(D) (1) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY SELL OR SERVE ALCOHOL ONLY IN AREAS WITHIN THE PREMISES DESIGNATED FOR ACTIVITY, SEATING, BAR SERVICE, AND DINING, INCLUDING PRIVATE PARTY ROOMS, AS DELINEATED IN THE LICENSE APPLICATION AND SITE PLAN APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

(2) THE LICENSE AUTHORIZES SALES TO A CUSTOMER, AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD, WHO IS:

(I) ACTIVELY UTILIZING OR PARTICIPATING IN THE VENUE’S RECREATIONAL SERVICES OR DINING; OR

(II) ON THE LICENSED PREMISES AS A GUEST OF A PARTICIPANT IN AN ACTIVITY OFFERED BY THE VENUE.

(E) THE LICENSE HOLDER SHALL MAINTAIN AND OFFER FOR SALE TO CUSTOMERS A VARIETY OF PREPARED, CONSUMABLE FOOD ITEMS AVAILABLE DURING ALL HOURS THAT ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE FOR SALE, AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD BASED ON THE NATURE OF THE FACILITY.

(F) THE LICENSE HOLDER SHALL:

(1) REQUIRE ALL EMPLOYEES SERVING ALCOHOL TO BE CERTIFIED BY AN APPROVED ALCOHOL AWARENESS TRAINING PROGRAM;



(2) IMPLEMENT A WRITTEN POLICY FOR EMPLOYEES TO MONITOR AND LIMIT SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS WHO ARE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES TO ENSURE SAFETY AND PREVENT INTOXICATION; AND

(3) OBTAIN A CROWD CONTROL TRAINING CERTIFICATE WHERE THE OCCUPANT LOAD EXCEEDS 50 PERSONS.

(G) (1) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MONDAY THROUGH SUNDAY FROM 6 A.M. TO 2 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

(2) THE LICENSE HOLDER NEED NOT OBTAIN A SUNDAY LICENSE UNDER § 11-2004 OF THIS TITLE TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON SUNDAY.

(H) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEES ARE:

(1) \$740 FOR A SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER AND WINE LICENSE;
AND

(2) \$1,200 FOR A SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 850

(House Bill 682)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Golf Course License and Sports Activity Venue Licenses

FOR the purpose of establishing in Anne Arundel County a Class ~~€~~ GC (golf course) license that authorizes the holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on–premises consumption at a certain golf course; establishing in Anne Arundel County sports activity venue licenses that authorize the holder to sell beer and wine or beer, wine, and liquor for on–premises consumption at a certain sports activity venue; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY renumbering

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1006.2
to be Section 11–1006.3
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1006.2 and 11–1008.2
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 11–1006.2 of Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 11–1006.3.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.



11-1006.2.

(A) THERE IS A CLASS ~~€~~ GC (GOLF COURSE) LICENSE.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE FOR USE AT A GOLF COURSE WITH AT LEAST NINE HOLES.

(C) THE LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE LICENSE HOLDER TO SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR AT RETAIL AT THE PLACE DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION.

(D) THE BOARD MAY PLACE CONDITIONS ON THE LOCATION OF SALES AND CONSUMPTION, INCLUDING PROHIBITING THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR IN SPECIFIC AREAS OF THE PREMISES.

(E) (1) (I) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE HOLDER OF THE LICENSE MAY SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR ON MONDAY THROUGH SUNDAY FROM 6 A.M. TO 2 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

(II) THE HOLDER OF THE LICENSE NEED NOT OBTAIN A SUNDAY PERMIT UNDER § 11-2004 OF THIS TITLE TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON SUNDAY.

(2) THE BOARD MAY REDUCE THE HOURS AND DAYS OF SALE FOR ALL OR PART OF THE LICENSED PREMISES.

(F) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEE IS \$1,200.

11-1008.2.

(A) THERE IS:

(1) A SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER AND WINE LICENSE; AND

(2) A SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A LICENSE TO THE OWNER OR OPERATOR OF A COMMERCIAL RECREATIONAL FACILITY THAT OFFERS:

(1) BOWLING;

(2) GOLF SIMULATORS;



- (3) MULTISPORT SIMULATORS;
- (4) INDOOR OR OUTDOOR PICKLEBALL COURTS;
- (5) INDOOR GYMNASIUMS OR TRAINING CENTERS; OR
- (6) ANY SIMILAR SPORT ACTIVITY OR VENUE.

(C) (1) THE SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER AND WINE LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL BEER AND WINE AT RETAIL AT THE PLACE DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION.

(2) THE SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR AT RETAIL AT THE PLACE DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION.

(D) (1) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY SELL OR SERVE ALCOHOL ONLY IN AREAS WITHIN THE PREMISES DESIGNATED FOR ACTIVITY, SEATING, BAR SERVICE, AND DINING, INCLUDING PRIVATE PARTY ROOMS, AS DELINEATED IN THE LICENSE APPLICATION AND SITE PLAN APPROVED BY THE BOARD.

(2) THE LICENSE AUTHORIZES SALES TO A CUSTOMER, AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD, WHO IS:

(I) ACTIVELY UTILIZING OR PARTICIPATING IN THE VENUE'S RECREATIONAL SERVICES OR DINING; OR

(II) ON THE LICENSED PREMISES AS A GUEST OF A PARTICIPANT IN AN ACTIVITY OFFERED BY THE VENUE.

(E) THE LICENSE HOLDER SHALL MAINTAIN AND OFFER FOR SALE TO CUSTOMERS A VARIETY OF PREPARED, CONSUMABLE FOOD ITEMS AVAILABLE DURING ALL HOURS THAT ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE FOR SALE, AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD BASED ON THE NATURE OF THE FACILITY.

(F) THE LICENSE HOLDER SHALL:

(1) REQUIRE ALL EMPLOYEES SERVING ALCOHOL TO BE CERTIFIED BY AN APPROVED ALCOHOL AWARENESS TRAINING PROGRAM;



(2) IMPLEMENT A WRITTEN POLICY FOR EMPLOYEES TO MONITOR AND LIMIT SERVICE TO CUSTOMERS WHO ARE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING IN PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES TO ENSURE SAFETY AND PREVENT INTOXICATION; AND

(3) OBTAIN A CROWD CONTROL TRAINING CERTIFICATE WHERE THE OCCUPANT LOAD EXCEEDS 50 PERSONS.

(G) (1) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MONDAY THROUGH SUNDAY FROM 6 A.M. TO 2 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

(2) THE LICENSE HOLDER NEED NOT OBTAIN A SUNDAY LICENSE UNDER § 11-2004 OF THIS TITLE TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ON SUNDAY.

(H) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEES ARE:

(1) \$740 FOR A SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER AND WINE LICENSE;
AND

(2) \$1,200 FOR A SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Population Ratio Quota for Class A (Off-Sale) and Class D (Off-Sale) Licenses - Exemption

SB0442



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-1602



EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 1, 2026 and ends on December 31, 2028, unless the General Assembly votes to extend the underlying 2025 law it depends on Chapters 818 and 819 (SB 571 / HB 99).

■ SUMMARY

- Exempts Class A and Class D off-sale licenses from the population ratio quota if the application was submitted on or after January 1, 2023 and approved before July 1, 2025.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 859

(Senate Bill 442)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Population Ratio Quota for Class A (Off-Sale) and Class D (Off-Sale) Licenses – Exemption

FOR the purpose of establishing an exemption to the population ratio quota for certain Class A (off-sale) and Class D (off-sale) licenses in Anne Arundel County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1602
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1602.

(a) In this section, “assessment district” means a tax assessment district:

(1) established by the county; and

(2) shown on the official map adopted by the County Council titled “Tax Assessment Districts, 2005”.

(b) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, the Board may issue a Class A (off-sale), Class B (off-sale), or Class D (off-sale) license based on its determination of whether the license is necessary to accommodate the public.



(c) If the application is for a Class A (off-sale) or Class D (off-sale) license, the Board may not issue the license if:

(1) the establishment for which the license would be issued is located in an assessment district in which the ratio of off-sale licenses per individual exceeds one for every 3,500 individuals; or

(2) the issuance of the license would cause the ratio of off-sale licenses per individual in an assessment district to exceed one for every 3,500 individuals.

(d) Subsection (c) of this section does not apply:

(1) to the transfer or renewal of a license that was issued on or before July 1, 2025;

(2) in the 6th tax assessment district; [or]

(3) to an application for an on-site consumption permit under § 2-207 of this article by an applicant that holds a Class 5 brewery license; OR

(4) TO AN APPLICATION FOR A LICENSE FILED ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2023, AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD BEFORE JULY 1, 2025.

(e) The population of each assessment district is to be determined by:

(1) the latest federal census; or

(2) estimates prepared by the Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning.

(f) The Board may not approve the transfer of a Class A (off-sale) license or Class D (off-sale) license:

(1) to a location outside the assessment district in which the license was located on July 1, 2025; or

(2) if the license was not in existence as of July 1, 2025, to a location outside the assessment district in which the license was originally issued.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026. It shall remain effective until the taking effect of the termination provision specified in Section 2 of Chapters 818 and 819 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2025. If that termination provision takes effect, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect. This Act may not be interpreted to have any effect on that termination provision.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Barbershop and Beauty Salon License

SB0852

HB1286



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 3-108 and 4-113



EFFECTIVE DATE: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 11-1002

■ SUMMARY

- Renames the existing “barbershop and beauty salon beer and wine license” to add liquor.
- Limits service per customer visit to 12 ounces of beer, 5 ounces of wine by the glass, or 1.7 ounces of liquor for on-premises consumption.
- Adds liquor to the beverages license holders may serve during normal business hours (retaining the 9 p.m. cutoff) and on Sundays without a separate Sunday license.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 846

(Senate Bill 852)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Barbershop and Beauty Salon License

FOR the purpose of authorizing a holder of a barbershop and beauty salon license in Anne Arundel County to provide a certain amount of liquor for on–premises consumption in addition to beer and wine; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1002
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1002.

(a) There is a barbershop and beauty salon beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** license.

(b) The Board may issue the license to a holder of:

(1) a barbershop permit issued under § 4–501 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or

(2) a beauty salon permit issued under § 5–501 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article.



(c) The license authorizes the license holder to provide ***TO A CUSTOMER DURING ANY ONE VISIT*** not more than 12 ounces of beer [or], 5 ounces of wine by the glass, **OR 1.7 OUNCES OF LIQUOR** for on-premises consumption by ~~a~~ ***THE*** barbershop or beauty salon customer:

(1) when the customer is being provided:

(i) a barbering service under Title 4 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or

(ii) a cosmetology service under Title 5 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or

(2) while the customer is attending a fund-raising event at the barbershop or beauty salon.

(d) A license holder may serve beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** for on-premises consumption during normal business hours but not later than 9 p.m.

(e) A license holder need not obtain a Sunday license under § 11-2004 of this title to provide beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** on Sunday.

(f) The annual license fee is \$100.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 847

(House Bill 1286)

AN ACT concerning

Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – Barbershop and Beauty Salon License

FOR the purpose of authorizing a holder of a barbershop and beauty salon license in Anne Arundel County to provide a certain amount of liquor for on–premises consumption in addition to beer and wine; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 11–1002
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–1002.

(a) There is a barbershop and beauty salon beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** license.

(b) The Board may issue the license to a holder of:

(1) a barbershop permit issued under § 4–501 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or

(2) a beauty salon permit issued under § 5–501 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article.



(c) The license authorizes the license holder to provide **TO A CUSTOMER DURING ANY ONE VISIT** not more than 12 ounces of beer [or], 5 ounces of wine by the glass, **OR 1.7 OUNCES OF LIQUOR** for on-premises consumption by ~~a~~ **THE** barbershop or beauty salon customer:

(1) when the customer is being provided:

(i) a barbering service under Title 4 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or

(ii) a cosmetology service under Title 5 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or

(2) while the customer is attending a fund-raising event at the barbershop or beauty salon.

(d) A license holder may serve beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** for on-premises consumption during normal business hours but not later than 9 p.m.

(e) A license holder need not obtain a Sunday license under § 11-2004 of this title to provide beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** on Sunday.

(f) The annual license fee is \$100.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Related Event Promoter's Permit

**SB0017
HB0020**

STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 12-1102.2, 12-2802(e) and (f)

EFFECTIVE DATE: February 24, 2026

SUMMARY

- Reestablishes a Related Event Promoter's Permit in Baltimore City to regulate alcohol service at CIAA Basketball Tournament events. Authorizes promoters and participating license holders to conduct events for the duration stated on the Special Event Permit.
- Promoters or participating license holders must apply at least 30 days before the event.
- State caterer's licensees must separately obtain a Class C per diem license before participating.
- Application Requirements:
 - Submit at least 30 days prior,
 - Include Visit Baltimore's written consent,
 - Obtain a Special Event Permit from the Baltimore City Department of Transportation, if required,
 - Notarize and have all participating license holders sign the application,
 - List each premises where the related event will be held, and
 - Provide any additional documents the Board of Liquor License Commissioners requires.
- Applicants need not be city residents.
- The Board must respond within 7 days; permits cannot be altered within 14 days of the event.
- The Board may adopt regulations for:
 - Event conduct, including health and safety standards for promoters and participating license holders, and
 - Public notice of related events at participating license holders' premises.
- Fees:
 - \$50 application fee,
 - \$500 permit fee for events under 300 persons; \$1,500 for events over 300 persons.
- Penalties:
 - Operating without a permit or required license, selling tickets, or similar violations carry a \$1,000–\$3,000 fine and/or license suspension.
 - Violators are barred from obtaining permits for at least 1 year.
 - The bill is an emergency measure effective through June 30, 2029.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 3

(Senate Bill 17)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – Related Event Promoter’s Permit

FOR the purpose of reestablishing a related event promoter’s permit in Baltimore City; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to issue a related event promoter’s permit to certain applicants under certain circumstances; requiring a holder of a State caterer’s license to obtain a certain Class C per diem license from the Board before the holder may act as a participating license holder at a related event; and generally relating to related event promoter’s permits in Baltimore City.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–1102.2 and 12–2802(e) and (f)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

12–102.

This title applies only in Baltimore City.

12–1102.2.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “CIAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT” MEANS THE ANNUAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT OF THE CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

(3) (I) “RELATED EVENT” MEANS AN EVENT IN WHICH:



1. A LICENSE HOLDER PARTICIPATES IN A COORDINATED PROMOTION WITH A THIRD-PARTY PROMOTER TO SELL OR PROVIDE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING A SPECIFIED TIME; AND

2. AT LEAST 75 INDIVIDUALS ARE REASONABLY ANTICIPATED TO PARTICIPATE.

(II) “RELATED EVENT” INCLUDES AN EVENT FOR WHICH TICKETS ARE SOLD TO THE PUBLIC, EITHER IN ADVANCE OR AT THE DOOR, OR A COVER CHARGE IS IMPOSED, INCLUDING A CONCERT, AN ENTERTAINMENT EVENT, A HAPPY HOUR, OR A PARTY.

(4) “RELATED EVENT PROMOTER” MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL, A FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, OR A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION THAT PROMOTES A SOCIAL EVENT RELATED TO THE CIAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AROUND THE SAME TIME AND LOCATION AS THE CIAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT.

(B) THERE IS A RELATED EVENT PROMOTER’S PERMIT.

(C) (1) A RELATED EVENT PROMOTER OR PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDER ON BEHALF OF A RELATED EVENT PROMOTER SHALL APPLY FOR A PERMIT FROM THE BOARD BEFORE THE RELATED EVENT PROMOTER MAY PUBLICIZE, SELL TICKETS FOR, ORGANIZE, OPERATE, PRODUCE, OR STAGE A RELATED EVENT.

(2) A HOLDER OF A STATE CATERER’S LICENSE SHALL OBTAIN A CLASS C PER DIEM BEER, BEER AND WINE, OR BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE FROM THE BOARD BEFORE THE HOLDER MAY ACT AS A PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDER AT A RELATED EVENT.

(D) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOARD MAY GRANT THE PERMIT TO AN APPLICANT WHO SUBMITS AN APPLICATION TO THE BOARD AS PROVIDED UNDER TITLE 4 OF THIS ARTICLE AT LEAST 30 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE OF THE RELATED EVENT.

(2) BEFORE BEING GRANTED THE PERMIT, AN APPLICANT SHALL:

(I) OBTAIN WRITTEN CONSENT FROM A DESIGNEE OF VISIT BALTIMORE;

(II) IF REQUIRED BASED ON THE TYPE OF PREMISES TO BE USED:



1. OBTAIN A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT FROM THE BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; AND

2. PROVIDE A COPY OF THE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT TO THE BOARD; AND

(III) PROVIDE A COMPLETED APPLICATION THAT:

1. IS DATED AND NOTARIZED, AND SIGNED BY EACH LICENSE HOLDER THAT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE RELATED EVENT;

2. LISTS EACH PREMISES FOR WHICH THE RELATED EVENT WILL BE HELD; AND

3. IS ACCOMPANIED BY ANY OTHER DOCUMENT THAT THE BOARD REQUIRES.

(3) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO APPLIES FOR AND IS ISSUED THE PERMIT IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE A RESIDENT OF OR REGISTERED TO VOTE IN BALTIMORE CITY.

(4) WITHIN 7 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING AN APPLICATION, THE BOARD SHALL GRANT OR DENY THE PERMIT OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FROM THE APPLICANT.

(5) A PERMIT MAY NOT BE ALTERED WITHIN 14 DAYS BEFORE THE RELATED EVENT IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE.

(E) THE PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE RELATED EVENT PROMOTER AND PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDER TO CONDUCT A RELATED EVENT.

(F) THE PERMIT FOR EACH RELATED EVENT MAY BE IN EFFECT FOR THE TIME STATED ON THE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (D)(2) OF THIS SECTION.

(G) THE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

(1) CONDUCTING A RELATED EVENT, INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS TO BE MET BY THE RELATED EVENT PROMOTER AND PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDER; AND



(2) PROVIDING PUBLIC NOTICE OF A RELATED EVENT AT THE PREMISES OF PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDERS BY THE RELATED EVENT PROMOTER OR PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDERS.

(H) (1) THE APPLICATION FEE IS \$50, PAYABLE ON THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION.

(2) THE PERMIT FEE, PAYABLE WHEN THE PERMIT IS GRANTED, IS:

(I) \$500, IF THE BALTIMORE CITY FIRE MARSHAL HAS DETERMINED THAT THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY FOR THE PROPOSED LOCATION IS LESS THAN 300 PERSONS; OR

(II) \$1,500, IF THE BALTIMORE CITY FIRE MARSHAL HAS DETERMINED THAT THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY FOR THE PROPOSED LOCATION IS 300 OR MORE PERSONS.

12-2802.

(E) (1) FOR THE OFFENSE OF PUBLICIZING, SELLING TICKETS OR IMPOSING A COVER CHARGE FOR, ORGANIZING, OPERATING, PRODUCING, FACILITATING, OR STAGING A RELATED EVENT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OR A REASON TO KNOW THAT A RELATED EVENT PROMOTER'S PERMIT REQUIRED UNDER § 12-1102.2 OF THIS TITLE HAS NOT BEEN OBTAINED, THE BOARD SHALL IMPOSE A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$1,000 AND NOT MORE THAN \$3,000 OR SUSPEND THE LICENSE OR BOTH.

(2) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES § 12-1102.2 OF THIS TITLE MAY NOT BE GRANTED A RELATED EVENT PROMOTER'S PERMIT FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR.

(F) FOR THE OFFENSE BY A HOLDER OF A STATE CATERER'S LICENSE OF PARTICIPATING IN A CIAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT RELATED EVENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A CLASS C PER DIEM BEER, BEER AND WINE, OR BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE REQUIRED UNDER § 12-1102.2 OF THIS TITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL IMPOSE A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$1,000 AND NOT MORE THAN \$3,000 OR SUSPEND THE STATE CATERER'S LICENSE OR BOTH.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted. It shall remain effective through June 30, 2029, and, at the end of June 30, 2029,



this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, February 24, 2026.



Chapter 74

(House Bill 20)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – Related Event Promoter’s Permit

FOR the purpose of reestablishing a related event promoter’s permit in Baltimore City; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to issue a related event promoter’s permit to certain applicants under certain circumstances; requiring a holder of a State caterer’s license to obtain a certain Class C per diem license from the Board before the holder may act as a participating license holder at a related event; and generally relating to related event promoter’s permits in Baltimore City.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–1102.2 and 12–2802(e) and (f)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

12–102.

This title applies only in Baltimore City.

12–1102.2.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) “CIAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT” MEANS THE ANNUAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT OF THE CENTRAL INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

(3) (I) “RELATED EVENT” MEANS AN EVENT IN WHICH:



(c) The license authorizes the license holder to provide ***TO A CUSTOMER DURING ANY ONE VISIT*** not more than 12 ounces of beer [or], 5 ounces of wine by the glass, **OR 1.7 OUNCES OF LIQUOR** for on-premises consumption by ~~a~~ ***THE*** barbershop or beauty salon customer:

(1) when the customer is being provided:

(i) a barbering service under Title 4 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or

(ii) a cosmetology service under Title 5 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article; or

(2) while the customer is attending a fund-raising event at the barbershop or beauty salon.

(d) A license holder may serve beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** for on-premises consumption during normal business hours but not later than 9 p.m.

(e) A license holder need not obtain a Sunday license under § 11-2004 of this title to provide beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** on Sunday.

(f) The annual license fee is \$100.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



1. OBTAIN A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT FROM THE BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION; AND

2. PROVIDE A COPY OF THE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT TO THE BOARD; AND

(III) PROVIDE A COMPLETED APPLICATION THAT:

1. IS DATED AND NOTARIZED, AND SIGNED BY EACH LICENSE HOLDER THAT WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE RELATED EVENT;

2. LISTS EACH PREMISES FOR WHICH THE RELATED EVENT WILL BE HELD; AND

3. IS ACCOMPANIED BY ANY OTHER DOCUMENT THAT THE BOARD REQUIRES.

(3) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO APPLIES FOR AND IS ISSUED THE PERMIT IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE A RESIDENT OF OR REGISTERED TO VOTE IN BALTIMORE CITY.

(4) WITHIN 7 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING AN APPLICATION, THE BOARD SHALL GRANT OR DENY THE PERMIT OR REQUEST MORE INFORMATION FROM THE APPLICANT.

(5) A PERMIT MAY NOT BE ALTERED WITHIN 14 DAYS BEFORE THE RELATED EVENT IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE.

(E) THE PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE RELATED EVENT PROMOTER AND PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDER TO CONDUCT A RELATED EVENT.

(F) THE PERMIT FOR EACH RELATED EVENT MAY BE IN EFFECT FOR THE TIME STATED ON THE SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (D)(2) OF THIS SECTION.

(G) THE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR:

(1) CONDUCTING A RELATED EVENT, INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY STANDARDS TO BE MET BY THE RELATED EVENT PROMOTER AND PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDER; AND



(2) PROVIDING PUBLIC NOTICE OF A RELATED EVENT AT THE PREMISES OF PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDERS BY THE RELATED EVENT PROMOTER OR PARTICIPATING LICENSE HOLDERS.

(H) (1) THE APPLICATION FEE IS \$50, PAYABLE ON THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION.

(2) THE PERMIT FEE, PAYABLE WHEN THE PERMIT IS GRANTED, IS:

(I) \$500, IF THE BALTIMORE CITY FIRE MARSHAL HAS DETERMINED THAT THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY FOR THE PROPOSED LOCATION IS LESS THAN 300 PERSONS; OR

(II) \$1,500, IF THE BALTIMORE CITY FIRE MARSHAL HAS DETERMINED THAT THE MAXIMUM CAPACITY FOR THE PROPOSED LOCATION IS 300 OR MORE PERSONS.

12-2802.

(E) (1) FOR THE OFFENSE OF PUBLICIZING, SELLING TICKETS OR IMPOSING A COVER CHARGE FOR, ORGANIZING, OPERATING, PRODUCING, FACILITATING, OR STAGING A RELATED EVENT WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OR A REASON TO KNOW THAT A RELATED EVENT PROMOTER’S PERMIT REQUIRED UNDER § 12-1102.2 OF THIS TITLE HAS NOT BEEN OBTAINED, THE BOARD SHALL IMPOSE A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$1,000 AND NOT MORE THAN \$3,000 OR SUSPEND THE LICENSE OR BOTH.

(2) A PERSON WHO VIOLATES § 12-1102.2 OF THIS TITLE MAY NOT BE GRANTED A RELATED EVENT PROMOTER’S PERMIT FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR.

(F) FOR THE OFFENSE BY A HOLDER OF A STATE CATERER’S LICENSE OF PARTICIPATING IN A CIAA BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT RELATED EVENT WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING A CLASS C PER DIEM BEER, BEER AND WINE, OR BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE REQUIRED UNDER § 12-1102.2 OF THIS TITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SHALL IMPOSE A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN \$1,000 AND NOT MORE THAN \$3,000 OR SUSPEND THE STATE CATERER’S LICENSE OR BOTH.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act is an emergency measure, is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health or safety, has been passed by a yea and nay vote supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, and shall take effect from the date it is enacted. It shall remain effective through June 30, 2029, and, at the end of June 30, 2029,



this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.


Approved by the Governor, April 14, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages – License Extension

SB0361
HB0348

 **STATUTES AFFECTED:** N/A

 **EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2026 and automatically ends on July 31, 2029

■ SUMMARY

- Extends the expiration of a racetrack alcoholic beverages license in the 5200 block of Park Heights Avenue (Pimlico) in Baltimore City through July 1, 2029.
- Authorizes the license holder to complete a transfer of ownership and renewal at the same location during the extension period.
- Authorizes the license holder to complete renovations at the same location during the extension period.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



(Senate Bill 361)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – License Extension

FOR the purpose of extending for a certain amount of time the expiration date of an alcoholic beverages license issued for a certain area of Baltimore City for the ~~purpose~~ purposes of completing a transfer of ownership and renewal and completing renovations; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Baltimore City.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That, ~~notwithstanding § 12-2202 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article,~~ a racetrack license issued for a premises in the 5200 block of Park Heights Avenue shall be considered unexpired until the end of July 1, ~~2029,~~ 2029:

(1) notwithstanding § 12-1705 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, for the purposes of completing a transfer of ownership and renewal at the same location; and

(2) notwithstanding § 12-2202 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, for the purpose of completing renovations at the same location.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and 1 month and, at the end of July 31, 2029, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 849

(House Bill 348)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – License Extension

FOR the purpose of extending for a certain amount of time the expiration date of an alcoholic beverages license issued for a certain area of Baltimore City for the ~~purpose~~ purposes of completing a transfer of ownership and renewal and completing renovations; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Baltimore City.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That, ~~notwithstanding § 12-2202 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article,~~ a racetrack license issued for a premises in the 5200 block of Park Heights Avenue shall be considered unexpired until the end of July 1, ~~2029,~~ 2029:

(1) notwithstanding § 12-1705 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, for the purposes of completing a transfer of ownership and renewal at the same location; and

(2) notwithstanding § 12-2202 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, for the purpose of completing renovations at the same location.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and 1 month and, at the end of July 31, 2029, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Revisions

SB0636
HB1425



STATUTES AFFECTED:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 12-2003(a), 12-2004(a), and 12-2103



EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Repeals the September 30th deadline to pay all fees in advance for Class A BWL licensees to be allowed to sell on Sundays during the holidays.
- Class A BWL’s must pay \$120 before each Sunday that they exercise the privilege, but now have the flexibility to add additional Sundays throughout the year.
- Extends the deadline to submit proof of paid personal property taxes to the Board from October 30 to March 30.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 813

(Senate Bill 636)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Revisions

FOR the purpose of repealing the deadline by which a certain fee must be paid by the holder of a Class A beer and light wine license or a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license to exercise certain Sunday sales privileges; altering the deadline by which a license holder must present to the Board certain proof that all of the license holder’s personal property taxes due to Baltimore City and the State have been paid; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Baltimore City.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–2003(a), 12–2004(a), and 12–2103
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

12–102.

This title applies only in Baltimore City.

12–2003.

(a) (1) Except as provided in § 12–2005 of this subtitle, a holder of a Class A beer and light wine license may sell beer and light wine:

(i) on Monday through Saturday:

1. from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the area specified in the Park Heights Master Plan adopted by the City in 2006; and



2. from 6 a.m. to midnight in all other locations in the City;
and

(ii) on the Sundays that fall between Thanksgiving Day and New Year's Day, from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., if[, on or before September 30 of that year,] the license holder has paid a supplementary license fee of \$120 for each Sunday the privilege is to be exercised.

(2) In addition to the privileges specified under paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection, the license holder may sell beer and light wine for off-premises consumption on two additional Sundays during the calendar year if the holder pays a license fee of \$120 at least 2 weeks before each time the privilege is exercised.

12-2004.

(a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a holder of a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license may sell beer, wine, and liquor:

(i) on Monday through Saturday:

1. from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the area specified in the Park Heights Master Plan adopted by the City in 2006;

2. from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. in an area bounded as follows: from the intersection of Belair Road and Anntana Avenue, southwest on Belair Road to the intersection of Belair Road and Frankford Avenue, southeast on Frankford Avenue to the intersection of Frankford Avenue and Sipple Avenue, west on Sipple Avenue to the intersection of Sipple Avenue and Crenshaw Avenue, southeast on Crenshaw Avenue to the intersection of Crenshaw Avenue and Goodnow Road, southeast on Goodnow Road to the intersection of Goodnow Road and Sinclair Lane, northeast on Sinclair Lane to the intersection of Sinclair Lane and Radecke Avenue, west on Radecke Avenue to the intersection of Radecke Avenue and Anntana Avenue, then north on Anntana Avenue to the intersection of Anntana Avenue and Belair Road; and

3. from 6 a.m. to midnight in all other locations in the City;
and

(ii) on the Sundays that fall between Thanksgiving Day and New Year's Day, from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., if[, on or before September 30 of that year,] the license holder has paid a supplementary license fee of \$120 for each Sunday the privilege is to be exercised.

(2) In addition to the privileges specified under paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection, the license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor for off-premises consumption on two additional Sundays during the calendar year if the holder pays a license fee of \$120 at least 2 weeks before each time the privilege is exercised.



12-2103.

(a) The Board shall immediately suspend without a hearing the renewal license of a license holder that fails to present to the Board by **[October 30] MARCH 30** annually a certificate issued by the Director of Finance showing that all personal property taxes due to the City or State are paid.

(b) The Board shall immediately reinstate a license suspended under this section without a hearing on presentation of the required certificate.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 814

(House Bill 1425)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Revisions

FOR the purpose of repealing the deadline by which a certain fee must be paid by the holder of a Class A beer and light wine license or a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license to exercise certain Sunday sales privileges; altering the deadline by which a license holder must present to the Board certain proof that all of the license holder’s personal property taxes due to Baltimore City and the State have been paid; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Baltimore City.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–2003(a), 12–2004(a), and 12–2103
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

12–102.

This title applies only in Baltimore City.

12–2003.

(a) (1) Except as provided in § 12–2005 of this subtitle, a holder of a Class A beer and light wine license may sell beer and light wine:

(i) on Monday through Saturday:

1. from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the area specified in the Park Heights Master Plan adopted by the City in 2006; and



and
2. from 6 a.m. to midnight in all other locations in the City;

(ii) on the Sundays that fall between Thanksgiving Day and New Year’s Day, from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., if[, on or before September 30 of that year,] the license holder has paid a supplementary license fee of \$120 for each Sunday the privilege is to be exercised.

(2) In addition to the privileges specified under paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection, the license holder may sell beer and light wine for off–premises consumption on two additional Sundays during the calendar year if the holder pays a license fee of \$120 at least 2 weeks before each time the privilege is exercised.

12–2004.

(a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subtitle, a holder of a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license may sell beer, wine, and liquor:

(i) on Monday through Saturday:

1. from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. in the area specified in the Park Heights Master Plan adopted by the City in 2006;

2. from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. in an area bounded as follows: from the intersection of Belair Road and Anntana Avenue, southwest on Belair Road to the intersection of Belair Road and Frankford Avenue, southeast on Frankford Avenue to the intersection of Frankford Avenue and Sipple Avenue, west on Sipple Avenue to the intersection of Sipple Avenue and Crenshaw Avenue, southeast on Crenshaw Avenue to the intersection of Crenshaw Avenue and Goodnow Road, southeast on Goodnow Road to the intersection of Goodnow Road and Sinclair Lane, northeast on Sinclair Lane to the intersection of Sinclair Lane and Radecke Avenue, west on Radecke Avenue to the intersection of Radecke Avenue and Anntana Avenue, then north on Anntana Avenue to the intersection of Anntana Avenue and Belair Road; and

and
3. from 6 a.m. to midnight in all other locations in the City;

(ii) on the Sundays that fall between Thanksgiving Day and New Year’s Day, from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m., if[, on or before September 30 of that year,] the license holder has paid a supplementary license fee of \$120 for each Sunday the privilege is to be exercised.

(2) In addition to the privileges specified under paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection, the license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor for off–premises consumption on two additional Sundays during the calendar year if the holder pays a license fee of \$120 at least 2 weeks before each time the privilege is exercised.



12-2103.

(a) The Board shall immediately suspend without a hearing the renewal license of a license holder that fails to present to the Board by ~~[October 30]~~ **MARCH 30** annually a certificate issued by the Director of Finance showing that all personal property taxes due to the City or State are paid.

(b) The Board shall immediately reinstate a license suspended under this section without a hearing on presentation of the required certificate.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - 46th Alcoholic Beverages District

SB0642
HB0998**STATUTES AFFECTED:**

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 12-403, 12-408, 12-1604(k), 12-1604.2, and 12-2802(g)

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**

July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Extends Class 7 micro-brewery license eligibility to the holders of a Class B–D–7 license in the 46th alcoholic beverages district, conditioned on a letter of support from the Ridgely’s Delight Association.
- Requires the Board to establish a standard memorandum of understanding (MOU) template between license applicants and local neighborhood associations by January 1, 2026. Neighborhood associations may add information to the template, and the Board must treat applications for new, transferred, or expanded licenses as incomplete if a required MOU is missing.
 - Only applies to license holders that are required to submit an MOU
- Authorizes the Board to transfer a Class B–D–7 license from Pigtown to Little Italy.
- Allows Class D license holders in the 46th district to apply to sell alcohol seven days a week if they:
 - Derive at least 51% of daily receipts from food,
 - Execute an MOU with the relevant neighborhood association,
 - Operate an establishment with no more than 100 seats, and
 - Pay a one-time \$15,000 fee in addition to annual renewal fees.
- The privilege also creates new limitations on the license and the board:
 - The Class D license cannot be transferred to a new location once it has been granted the privilege,

continued

SB0642/ HB0998

Alcoholic Beverages - 46th Alcoholic Beverages District — *continued*

- And new Class D holder that is granted the privilege must continue meeting the requirements, and
- The Board must use the one-time privilege fee to enforce the MOU.
- Requires the Board to adopt tiered penalty regulations for violations under the title, including revocation of the seven-day sales privilege after three MOU violations within two years.
- Permits a licensed establishment on the south side of the unit block of West Pratt Street (the Baltimore Convention Center) to keep and serve manufacturer- or wholesaler-donated alcohol at events where a nonprofit has rented the premises, provided the licensee verifies nonprofit status, serves the donated alcohol, remits applicable taxes, and only keeps and serves the donated alcohol for a single rental contract.
 - This privilege is uncodified, and sunsets after 3 years on May 31, 2028.
- Extends three specific licenses to July 1, 2026:
 - Class D beer and wine license in the 800 block of St. Paul Street (for an ownership transfer at the same location),
 - Class B license in the 6500 block of Eastern Avenue (for renewal), and a
 - Class B–D–7 license in the 1600 block of Eastern Avenue (for renewal and transfer to a new owner in the 700 block of Aliceanna Street).

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 845

(Senate Bill 642)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – 46th Alcoholic Beverages District

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to issue a Class 7 micro-brewery license to the holder of a Class B-D-7 license in the 46th alcoholic beverages district, subject to a certain limitation; requiring the Board to establish a standard template for certain memoranda of understanding by a certain date; authorizing the Board ~~of License Commissioners for Baltimore City~~ to authorize the transfer of a Class B-D-7 license from an area in the 40th alcoholic beverages district into the 46th alcoholic beverages district; authorizing certain holders of certain Class D licenses in the 46th alcoholic beverages district to apply for a 7-day sales privilege under certain circumstances; requiring the Board to adopt regulations establishing certain tiered penalties for license violations; authorizing a license holder in a certain area in the 46th alcoholic beverages district to keep and allow individuals to consume alcohol donated by a manufacturer or wholesaler under certain circumstances; extending for a certain amount of time the expiration of ~~an~~ alcoholic beverage ~~license~~ licenses issued for ~~a~~ certain ~~area~~ locations for certain transfer and renewal purposes; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Baltimore City.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12-102 and 12-1604(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12-403
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section ~~12-1604(k)~~ 12-1408, 12-1604(k), 12-1604.2, and 12-2802(g)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis



12-102.

This title applies only in Baltimore City.

12-403.

(a) This section applies to a Class 7 micro-brewery license in the City.

(b) (1) The license may be issued only to the holder of:

[(1)] (I) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) license that is issued for use on the premises of a restaurant located in the City; or

[(2)] (II) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, a Class [D] B-D-7 alcoholic beverages license that is issued for use on the premises of the existing Class [D] B-D-7 license located in the [40th] 46TH alcoholic beverages district of the City.

(2) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A LICENSE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF THE HOLDER OF THE CLASS B-D-7 LICENSE RECEIVES A LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM THE RIDGELY'S DELIGHT ASSOCIATION.

(c) (1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this subsection, the holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license may:

(i) brew in two locations using the same Class 7 micro-brewery license; and

(ii) obtain a Class 2 rectifying license for the premises at the two locations authorized under item (i) of this paragraph.

(2) The holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license may brew in two locations using the same Class 7 micro-brewery license if the license holder:

(i) requests permission by submitting a written application to the Executive Director; and

(ii) obtains written approval from the Executive Director.

(3) Before authorizing a holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license to brew in two locations using the same Class 7 micro-brewery license, the Executive Director shall:

(i) make a determination that a second location to brew additional capacity is necessary due to insufficient space at the existing Class 7 license location; and



(ii) consider any other factor relevant to approval of the application.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, a holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license may not serve or sell beer for on- or off-premises consumption at the second brewing location authorized under this subsection.

12-1408.

(A) (1) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027, THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH A STANDARD TEMPLATE FOR MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN APPLICANTS FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES AND LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS TITLE.

(2) INDIVIDUAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS MAY INCLUDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE STANDARD TEMPLATE ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(B) IF AN APPLICANT FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A NEW, TRANSFERRED, OR EXPANDED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, THE BOARD MAY NOT CONSIDER THE APPLICATION TO BE COMPLETE UNLESS A COMPLETED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IS INCLUDED WITH THE APPLICATION.

12-1604.

(a) This section applies only to the 46th alcoholic beverages district, which at all times is coterminous with the 46th legislative district in the Legislative Districting Plan of 2022.

(k) THE BOARD MAY AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF A CLASS B-D-7 LICENSE FROM THE 700 BLOCK OF WASHINGTON BOULEVARD IN THE 40TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT FOR USE BY AN ESTABLISHMENT ON THE 200 BLOCK OF SOUTH HIGH STREET IN THE 46TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT.

12-1604.2.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS D LICENSE FOR USE IN THE 46TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT.

(B) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING § 12-2004(F) OF THIS TITLE, A HOLDER OF A VALID CLASS D LICENSE MAY APPLY TO THE BOARD TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MONDAY THROUGH SUNDAY IF THE LICENSE HOLDER:



(I) MAINTAINS AVERAGE DAILY RECEIPTS FROM THE SALE OF FOOD THAT ARE AT LEAST 51% OF THE TOTAL DAILY RECEIPTS FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT;

(II) EXECUTES A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE RELEVANT LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD;

(III) OPERATES AN ESTABLISHMENT WITH NOT MORE THAN 100 SEATS; AND

(IV) PAYS A ONE-TIME FEE OF \$15,000, IN ADDITION TO ANNUAL RENEWAL FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CLASS D LICENSE.

(2) (I) A CLASS D LICENSE THAT IS GRANTED A 7-DAY PRIVILEGE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO A NEW LOCATION.

(II) A NEW HOLDER OF A CLASS D LICENSE THAT IS GRANTED A 7-DAY PRIVILEGE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MUST COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(C) THE BOARD SHALL USE THE ONE-TIME FEE PAID BY THE LICENSE HOLDER UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(1)(IV) OF THIS SECTION FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(1)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

12-2802.

(G) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH TIERED PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS UNDER THIS TITLE, INCLUDING THE REVOCATION OF A 7-DAY SALES PRIVILEGE GRANTED UNDER § 12-1604.2 OF THIS TITLE IF THE LICENSEE VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF THE REQUIRED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING THREE OR MORE TIMES WITHIN A 2-YEAR PERIOD.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding §§ 6-308 and 6-311 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, a licensed establishment on the south side of the unit block of West Pratt Street may keep and allow individuals to consume on the licensed premises alcoholic beverages donated by a manufacturer or wholesaler if:

(1) the alcoholic beverages are donated and served at an event for which a nonprofit entity has rented the licensed premises;

(2) the licensee has provided to the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City evidence of the nonprofit status of the entity renting the licensed premises;



- (3) the licensee serves the alcohol donated for the event;
- (4) any related taxes have been remitted; and
- (5) the licensee only keeps and serves alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a single rental contract.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, ~~notwithstanding:~~

(a) Notwithstanding § 12-1705 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, a Class D beer and wine license issued for a premises in the 800 block of St. Paul Street shall be considered unexpired until July 1, 2027, for the purpose of completing a transfer of ownership at the same location.

(b) Notwithstanding § 12-2202 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license issued for a premises in the 6500 block of Eastern Avenue shall be considered unexpired until the end of July 1, 2027, for the purpose of being renewed to the current license year by the licensee.

(c) Notwithstanding § 12-2202 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, a Class B-D-7 beer, wine, and liquor license issued for a premises in the 1600 block of Eastern Avenue shall be considered unexpired until the end of July 1, 2027, for the purpose of being renewed to the current license year and transferred to a new owner at a premises in the 700 block of Aliceanna Street.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2026. Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of May 31, 2028, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 844

(House Bill 998)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – 46th Alcoholic Beverages District

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to issue a Class 7 micro-brewery license to the holder of a Class B-D-7 license in the 46th alcoholic beverages district, subject to a certain limitation; requiring the Board to establish a standard template for certain memoranda of understanding by a certain date; ~~authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to~~ authorize the transfer of a Class B-D-7 license from an area in the 40th alcoholic beverages district into the 46th alcoholic beverages district; authorizing certain holders of certain Class D licenses in the 46th alcoholic beverages district to apply for a 7-day sales privilege under certain circumstances; requiring the Board to adopt regulations establishing certain tiered penalties for license violations; authorizing a license holder in a certain area in the 46th alcoholic beverages district to keep and allow individuals to consume alcohol donated by a manufacturer or wholesaler under certain circumstances; extending for a certain amount of time the expiration of ~~an~~ alcoholic beverage ~~license~~ licenses issued for ~~a~~ certain ~~area~~ locations for certain transfer and renewal purposes; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Baltimore City.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 12-102 and 12-1604(a)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12-403
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section ~~12-1604(k)~~ 12-1408, 12-1604(k), 12-1604.2, and 12-2802(g)
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis



12-102.

This title applies only in Baltimore City.

12-403.

(a) This section applies to a Class 7 micro-brewery license in the City.

(b) (1) The license may be issued only to the holder of:

[(1)] (I) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) license that is issued for use on the premises of a restaurant located in the City; or

[(2)] (II) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, a Class [D] B-D-7 alcoholic beverages license that is issued for use on the premises of the existing Class [D] B-D-7 license located in the [40th] 46TH alcoholic beverages district of the City.

(2) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A LICENSE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF THE HOLDER OF THE CLASS B-D-7 LICENSE RECEIVES A LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM THE RIDGELY'S DELIGHT ASSOCIATION.

(c) (1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this subsection, the holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license may:

(i) brew in two locations using the same Class 7 micro-brewery license; and

(ii) obtain a Class 2 rectifying license for the premises at the two locations authorized under item (i) of this paragraph.

(2) The holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license may brew in two locations using the same Class 7 micro-brewery license if the license holder:

(i) requests permission by submitting a written application to the Executive Director; and

(ii) obtains written approval from the Executive Director.

(3) Before authorizing a holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license to brew in two locations using the same Class 7 micro-brewery license, the Executive Director shall:

(i) make a determination that a second location to brew additional capacity is necessary due to insufficient space at the existing Class 7 license location; and



(ii) consider any other factor relevant to approval of the application.

(4) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, a holder of a Class 7 micro-brewery license may not serve or sell beer for on- or off-premises consumption at the second brewing location authorized under this subsection.

12-1408.

(A) (1) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2027, THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH A STANDARD TEMPLATE FOR MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN APPLICANTS FOR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSES AND LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS TITLE.

(2) INDIVIDUAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATIONS MAY INCLUDE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE STANDARD TEMPLATE ESTABLISHED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(B) IF AN APPLICANT FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A NEW, TRANSFERRED, OR EXPANDED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE IS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, THE BOARD MAY NOT CONSIDER THE APPLICATION TO BE COMPLETE UNLESS A COMPLETED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IS INCLUDED WITH THE APPLICATION.

12-1604.

(a) This section applies only to the 46th alcoholic beverages district, which at all times is coterminous with the 46th legislative district in the Legislative Districting Plan of 2022.

(K) THE BOARD MAY AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF A CLASS B-D-7 LICENSE FROM THE 700 BLOCK OF WASHINGTON BOULEVARD IN THE 40TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT FOR USE BY AN ESTABLISHMENT ON THE 200 BLOCK OF SOUTH HIGH STREET IN THE 46TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT.

12-1604.2.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS D LICENSE FOR USE IN THE 46TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT.

(B) (1) NOTWITHSTANDING § 12-2004(F) OF THIS TITLE, A HOLDER OF A VALID CLASS D LICENSE MAY APPLY TO THE BOARD TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MONDAY THROUGH SUNDAY IF THE LICENSE HOLDER:



(I) MAINTAINS AVERAGE DAILY RECEIPTS FROM THE SALE OF FOOD THAT ARE AT LEAST 51% OF THE TOTAL DAILY RECEIPTS FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT;

(II) EXECUTES A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE RELEVANT LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD;

(III) OPERATES AN ESTABLISHMENT WITH NOT MORE THAN 100 SEATS; AND

(IV) PAYS A ONE-TIME FEE OF \$15,000, IN ADDITION TO ANNUAL RENEWAL FEES ASSOCIATED WITH THE CLASS D LICENSE.

(2) (I) A CLASS D LICENSE THAT IS GRANTED A 7-DAY PRIVILEGE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE TRANSFERRED TO A NEW LOCATION.

(II) A NEW HOLDER OF A CLASS D LICENSE THAT IS GRANTED A 7-DAY PRIVILEGE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MUST COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(C) THE BOARD SHALL USE THE ONE-TIME FEE PAID BY THE LICENSE HOLDER UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(1)(IV) OF THIS SECTION FOR ENFORCEMENT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(1)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

12-2802.

(G) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS THAT ESTABLISH TIERED PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS UNDER THIS TITLE, INCLUDING THE REVOCATION OF A 7-DAY SALES PRIVILEGE GRANTED UNDER § 12-1604.2 OF THIS TITLE IF THE LICENSEE VIOLATES THE PROVISIONS OF THE REQUIRED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING THREE OR MORE TIMES WITHIN A 2-YEAR PERIOD.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding §§ 6-308 and 6-311 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, a licensed establishment on the south side of the unit block of West Pratt Street may keep and allow individuals to consume on the licensed premises alcoholic beverages donated by a manufacturer or wholesaler if:

(1) the alcoholic beverages are donated and served at an event for which a nonprofit entity has rented the licensed premises;

(2) the licensee has provided to the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City evidence of the nonprofit status of the entity renting the licensed premises;



- (3) the licensee serves the alcohol donated for the event;
- (4) any related taxes have been remitted; and
- (5) the licensee only keeps and serves alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a single rental contract.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, ~~notwithstanding:~~

(a) Notwithstanding § 12-1705 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, a Class D beer and wine license issued for a premises in the 800 block of St. Paul Street shall be considered unexpired until July 1, 2027, for the purpose of completing a transfer of ownership at the same location.

(b) Notwithstanding § 12-2202 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license issued for a premises in the 6500 block of Eastern Avenue shall be considered unexpired until the end of July 1, 2027, for the purpose of being renewed to the current license year by the licensee.

(c) Notwithstanding § 12-2202 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, a Class B-D-7 beer, wine, and liquor license issued for a premises in the 1600 block of Eastern Avenue shall be considered unexpired until the end of July 1, 2027, for the purpose of being renewed to the current license year and transferred to a new owner at a premises in the 700 block of Aliceanna Street.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2026. Section 2 of this Act shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of May 31, 2028, Section 2 of this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Related Event Promoter's Permit

SB0927**STATUTES AFFECTED:** N/A**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2026 and automatically expires December 31, 2026.

■ SUMMARY

- Creates a permit allowing license holders to host special events during the Kappa Alpha Psi 2026 Conclave.
- Covers Conclave-linked events where a license holder partners with a third-party promoter to sell alcohol and expects at least 75 attendees, including ticketed events, cover-charge events, concerts, happy hours, and parties.
- Mandates that related event promoters (or participating license holders on their behalf) obtain a Board permit before publicizing, ticketing, or staging an event.
- Requires State caterer's license holders to obtain a Class C per diem beer, beer and wine, or beer, wine, and liquor license before participating.
- Requires applicants to apply at least 30 days before the event.
- Requires applicants to secure written consent from a Visit Baltimore designee.
- Requires a Baltimore City Department Of Transportation special event permit when applicable.
- Requires a notarized application signed by each participating license holder.
- Directs the Board to grant, deny, or request more information within 7 days.
- Waives Baltimore City residency and voter registration requirements for applicants.
- Prohibits altering a permit within 14 days of the event.
- Charges a \$50 application fee.
- Charges a \$500 permit fee for venues under 300-person capacity or charges a \$1,500 permit fee for venues at 300-person capacity or more.
- Fines violators \$1,000 to \$3,000, suspends their license, or both for charging tickets, cover charge, etc. or staging an event without the required permit.
- Applies the same penalties to caterers who skip the Class C per diem license, enforced by the Executive Director of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 843

(Senate Bill 927)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Alcoholic Beverages – Related Event Promoter’s Permit

FOR the purpose of establishing a related event promoter’s permit in Baltimore City for the Kappa Alpha Psi 2027 Conclave; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to issue a related event promoter’s permit to certain applicants under certain circumstances; requiring a holder of a State caterer’s license to obtain a certain Class C per diem license from the Board before the holder may act as a participating license holder at a related event; and generally relating to a related event promoter’s permit in Baltimore City.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

- (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (2) “Board” means the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City.
- (3) “Kappa Alpha Psi Conclave” means the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. 2027 Conclave and 88th grand chapter meeting for Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.
- (4) “License holder” means the holder of an alcoholic beverages license issued by the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City.
- (5) (i) “Related event” means an event related to the Kappa Alpha Psi Conclave in which:
1. a license holder participates in a coordinated promotion with a third-party promoter to sell or provide alcoholic beverages during a specified time; and
 2. at least 75 individuals are reasonably anticipated to participate.
- (ii) “Related event” includes an event for which tickets are sold to the public, either in advance or at the door, or a cover charge is imposed, including a concert, an entertainment event, a happy hour, or a party.
- (6) “Related event promoter” means an individual, a for-profit organization, or a nonprofit organization that promotes a related event.



(b) (1) A related event promoter or participating license holder on behalf of a related event promoter shall apply for a permit from the Board before the related event promoter may publicize, sell tickets for, organize, operate, produce, or stage a related event.

(2) A holder of a State caterer’s license shall obtain a Class C per diem beer, beer and wine, or beer, wine, and liquor license from the Board before the holder may act as a participating license holder at a related event.

(c) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Board may grant the permit to an applicant who submits an application to the Board as provided under Title 4 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article at least 30 days before the date of the related event.

(2) Before being granted the permit, an applicant shall:

(i) obtain written consent from a designee of Visit Baltimore;

(ii) if required based on the type of premises to be used:

1. obtain a special event permit from the Baltimore City Department of Transportation; and

2. provide a copy of the special event permit to the Board;
and

(iii) provide a completed application that:

1. is dated and notarized, and signed by each license holder that will participate in the related event;

2. lists each premises for which the related event will be held;
and

3. is accompanied by any other document that the Board requires.

(3) An individual who applies for and is issued the permit is not required to be a resident of or registered to vote in Baltimore City.

(4) Within 7 days after receiving an application, the Board shall grant or deny the permit or request more information from the applicant.

(5) A permit may not be altered within 14 days before the related event is scheduled to take place.



(d) The permit authorizes the related event promoter and participating license holder to conduct a related event.

(e) The permit for the related event may be in effect for the time stated on the special event permit required under subsection (c)(2) of this section.

(f) The Board may adopt regulations establishing requirements for:

(1) conducting a related event, including health and safety standards to be met by the related event promoter and participating license holder; and

(2) providing public notice of a related event at the premises of participating license holders by the related event promoter or participating license holders.

(g) (1) The application fee is \$50, payable on the submission of the application.

(2) The permit fee, payable when the permit is granted, is:

(i) \$500, if the Baltimore City Fire Marshal has determined that the maximum capacity for the proposed location is less than 300 persons; or

(ii) \$1,500, if the Baltimore City Fire Marshal has determined that the maximum capacity for the proposed location is 300 or more persons.

(h) For the offense of publicizing, selling tickets or imposing a cover charge for, organizing, operating, producing, facilitating, or staging a related event with the knowledge or a reason to know that a related event promoter's permit required under this section has not been obtained, the Board shall impose a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$3,000 or suspend the license or both.

(i) For the offense by a holder of a State caterer's license of participating in a related event without first obtaining a Class C per diem beer, beer and wine, or beer, wine, and liquor license as required under this section, the Executive Director of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission shall impose a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$3,000 or suspend the State caterer's license or both.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026. It shall remain effective for a period of 1 year and 6 months and, at the end of December 31, 2027, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



40th Alcoholic Beverages District - Authorizations and Revisions

SB0927

STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 12-1603(c)(13), (25), (26), (27), (28), and 12-2005(d)

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

SUMMARY

- Allows the Board to issue a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license in the 1200 block of Eutaw Place in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if:
 - A Memorandum of Understanding is executed between the applicant and the Bolton Hill Community Association, and
 - The Board waives any rule limiting sales to members and their guests.
- Authorizes a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant on the odd side of the 1000 block of West Baltimore St in the 40th alcoholic district if:
 - The applicant executes a Memorandum of Understanding with the Hollins Roundhouse Association,
 - The license is not transferred to a different location or another person, and
 - The Board waives the minimum seating requirement.
- Authorizes a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant on the even side of the 800 block of North Charles Street in the 40th alcoholic district if:
 - The applicant executes a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mount Vernon-Belvedere Association, and
 - The Board waives the minimum seating requirement.
- Redefines part of the 40th district hours-restricted area by replacing several street references: “Millington Avenue” becomes “Brunswick Street,” and the route along “West Pratt Street” is replaced with a new path running via “South Franklinton Road” and “Hollins Street”.
 - Specifies that the Wilkens Avenue boundary now applies only to the even side of the street.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 822

(Senate Bill 972)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – 40th Alcoholic Beverages District – ~~Class B Beer, Wine, and Liquor Licenses~~ Authorizations and Revisions

FOR the purpose of authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to issue Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses for certain locations in the 40th alcoholic beverages district, subject to certain limitations: prohibiting certain license holders in a certain area of the 40th alcoholic beverages district from selling alcoholic beverages at certain times of day; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Baltimore City.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section ~~12–1603(c)(25) and (26)~~ 12–1603(c)(13), (25), and (26) and 12–2005(d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 12–1603(c)(27) and (28)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

12–102.

This title applies only in Baltimore City.

12–1603.

(c) The Board may issue:



(13) [if the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the Bolton Hill Community Association,] a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license in the 1200 block of Eutaw Place in the 40th alcoholic beverages district IF:

(I) THE APPLICANT EXECUTES A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE BOLTON HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION; AND

(II) THE BOARD WAIVES ANY REQUIREMENTS THAT SALES MAY BE MADE ONLY TO MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF MEMBERS;

(25) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant on the even side of the unit block of South Carrollton Avenue in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if:

(i) the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the Hollins Roundhouse Association; and

(ii) the Board waives the minimum seating requirement under item (1)(ii)2 of this subsection; [and]

(26) a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license on the odd side of the 800 block of North Howard Street in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if:

(i) the applicant does not convert the license to a different license class;

(ii) the applicant does not transfer the license to a different location;

(iii) alcoholic beverages are served only to patrons indoors;

(iv) alcoholic beverages sales begin not earlier than 10 a.m. and end not later than 9 p.m.;

(v) the applicant provides not more than two 12-ounce offerings of beer, two 6-ounce offerings of wine by the glass, or two 1.5-ounce offerings of liquor for on-premises consumption by a patron while the patron is provided a barbering service regulated under Title 4, Subtitle 5 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article;

(vi) the Board waives any requirements that sales can be made only to members and the guests of members; and

(vii) the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the Mount Vernon – Belvedere Association;



(27) A CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE FOR A RESTAURANT ON THE ODD SIDE OF THE 1000 BLOCK OF WEST BALTIMORE STREET IN THE 40TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT IF:

(I) THE APPLICANT EXECUTES A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE HOLLINS ROUNDHOUSE ASSOCIATION;

(II) THE APPLICANT DOES NOT TRANSFER THE LICENSE TO A DIFFERENT LOCATION OR TO ANOTHER PERSON; AND

(III) THE BOARD WAIVES THE MINIMUM SEATING REQUIREMENT UNDER ITEM (1)(II)2 OF THIS SUBSECTION; AND

(28) A CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE FOR A RESTAURANT ON THE EVEN SIDE OF THE 800 BLOCK OF NORTH CHARLES STREET IN THE 40TH ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT IF:

(I) THE APPLICANT EXECUTES A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE MOUNT VERNON – BELVEDERE ASSOCIATION; AND

(II) THE BOARD WAIVES THE MINIMUM SEATING REQUIREMENT UNDER ITEM (1)(II)2 OF THIS SUBSECTION.

12-2005.

(d) (1) This subsection does not apply to:

(i) a Class B beer and light wine (restaurant) license;

(ii) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (restaurant) license issued under § 12-1603(c)(1)(ii) of this title;

(iii) a Class B-BWL (H-M) license;

(iv) a Class C beer and wine license;

(v) a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license;

(vi) an arena license;

(vii) a marketplace license; or

(viii) a Class M-F (municipal family fun center) license.



(2) For a license holder in the 40th alcoholic beverages district, the hours of sale for alcoholic beverages may not begin before 10 a.m. or end after 10 p.m.:

(i) within an area bounded:

1. from the intersection of Reisterstown Road and Quantico Avenue, northwest on Reisterstown Road to the intersection with Wylie Avenue, northeast on Wylie Avenue to the intersection with Pimlico Road, northwest on Pimlico Road to the intersection with Dupont Avenue, east on Dupont Avenue to the intersection with Pall Mall Road, southeast on Pall Mall Road to the intersection with Edgecombe Circle North, east on Edgecombe Circle North to the intersection with Finney Avenue, south on Finney Avenue to the intersection with Oakford Avenue, west on Oakford Avenue to the intersection with Pall Mall Road, southeast on Pall Mall Road to the intersection with Loyola Northway, southwest on Loyola Northway to the intersection with Pimlico Road, southeast on Pimlico Road to the intersection with Quantico Avenue, and southwest on Quantico Avenue to the intersection with Reisterstown Road; and

2. from the intersection of [Millington Avenue] **BRUNSWICK STREET** with Wilkens Avenue, northwest on [Millington Avenue] **BRUNSWICK STREET** to the intersection with Frederick Avenue, northeast on Frederick Avenue to the intersection with [West Pratt Street] **SOUTH FRANKLINTOWN ROAD, NORTHWEST ON SOUTH FRANKLINTOWN ROAD TO THE INTERSECTION WITH HOLLINS STREET**, east on [West Pratt Street] **HOLLINS STREET** to the intersection with South Mount Street, south on South Mount Street to the intersection with Eagle Street, southwest on Eagle Street to the intersection with South Smallwood Street, northwest on South Smallwood Street to the intersection with Wilkens Avenue, and southwest on **THE EVEN SIDE OF Wilkens Avenue to the intersection with [Millington Avenue] **BRUNSWICK STREET****;

(ii) within the area of West North Avenue between the 1000 block of West North Avenue and the 3200 block of West North Avenue, inclusive;

(iii) for a license holder within 250 yards in any direction of the area described in item (ii) of this paragraph; and

(iv) within an area bounded as follows: from the intersection of North Fulton Avenue with North Avenue, north on North Fulton Avenue to the intersection with Pennsylvania Avenue, northeast on North Fulton Avenue to the intersection with Druid Hill Avenue, southeast on Druid Hill Avenue to the intersection with Mosher Street, southwest on Mosher Street to the intersection with North Carey Street, north on North Carey Street to the intersection with North Avenue, and west on North Avenue to the intersection with North Fulton Avenue.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.



Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Cigarettes, Other Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices - Enforcement and Licensure

SB0279



STATUTES AFFECTED:

Business Regulation Section 16-102, 16-216, 16-302, 16-308.2, 16.5-102, 16.5-203(b), 16.5-213, 16.7-102, 16.7-202(b), 16.7-212, 16-302.1, 16.5-201.1, 16.7-201



EFFECTIVE DATE:

October 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Creates §16–302.1 (Licensure Authorization), which requires any person in Baltimore City to obtain a licensure authorization from the Mayor and City Council before applying for or renewing a county cigarette, OTP, or ESD license in Baltimore City.
 - Permits the Mayor and City Council to set a fee and establish a process to accept, approve, or deny licensure authorization requests made under §16–302.1, §16.5–201.1, or §16.7–201.1.
 - Requires any such process to confirm applicants comply with state and local laws and are otherwise entitled to licensure, and to include a mechanism for referring the basis of any denial under §16–302.1, §16.5–201.1, or §16.7–201.1 to the Executive Director, who may review it.
- **Cigarette Licenses**
 - Authorizes a special enforcement officer of a Baltimore City agency to enforce the Cigarette licensing title within Baltimore City, and authorizes them to inspect retail license holders’ premises at reasonable times.
 - Empowers the Executive Director to reprimand, suspend, or revoke licenses for violations the officer identifies, subject to existing hearing provisions.
 - Requires the Mayor and City Council to transfer 50% of all licensure authorization request fees collected under §16–302.1 to the Comptroller.
 - Directs the Comptroller to distribute those fees to the Family League of Baltimore City, Inc., proportionally based on the number of licensees operating in each legislative district.
 - Requires applicants for an initial or renewal county license to provide the clerk with a licensure authorization issued under the new §16–302.1.
 - Authorizes the Executive Director to reprimand, suspend, or revoke a license based on unpackaged cigarette sales violations issued by an enforcement officer of the Tobacco Use Prevention and

continued

SB0279

Cigarettes, Other Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices - Enforcement and Licensure

— *continued*

Cessation Program in the Baltimore City Health Department, subject to hearing provisions.

- **Other Tobacco Products (OTP) licenses**

- Authorizes a special enforcement officer of a Baltimore City agency to enforce the OTP licensing title within Baltimore City, and authorizes them to inspect retail license holders' premises at reasonable times.
- Empowers the Executive Director to reprimand, suspend, or revoke licenses for identified violations, subject to hearing provisions.
- Creates §16.5–201.1 (Licensure Authorization), which requires Baltimore City applicants to obtain a licensure authorization from the Mayor and City Council before applying for an initial or renewal county license, and permits the Executive Director to review the basis for any denial.
- Requires Baltimore City applicants for an initial or renewal county license to provide the clerk with a licensure authorization issued under §16.5–201.1.
- Requires Baltimore City to transfer 50% of licensure authorization request fees to the Comptroller, who must distribute them to the Family League of Baltimore City, Inc. proportionally based on licensees in each legislative district.

- **Electronic Smoking Devices (ESDs)**

- Authorizes a special enforcement officer of a Baltimore City agency to enforce the ESD licensing title within Baltimore City, and authorizes them to inspect retail

license holders' premises at reasonable times

- Empowers the Executive Director to reprimand, suspend, or revoke licenses for identified violations, subject to hearing provisions.
- Creates §16.7–201.1 (Licensure Authorization), which requires Baltimore City applicants to obtain a licensure authorization from the Mayor and City Council before applying for an initial or renewal county license, and permits the Executive Director to review the basis for any denial.
- Requires Baltimore City applicants for an initial or renewal county license to provide the clerk with a licensure authorization issued under §16.7–201.1.
- Requires Baltimore City to transfer 50% of licensure authorization fees to the Comptroller, who must distribute them to the Family League of Baltimore City, Inc. proportionally based on licensees in each legislative district.
- Uncodified language in the bill bars the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City from issuing licensure authorizations to initial license applicants between October 1, 2026, and October 1, 2026.
- Implementation Note: The uncodified language does not pause the requirement to have authorization before applying for a license, and therefore sets a 1 year moratorium on authorizing and issuing any new tobacco licenses in Baltimore City.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 387

(Senate Bill 279)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore City – Cigarettes, Other Tobacco Products, and Electronic Smoking Devices – ~~Local Laws Authorization~~ Enforcement and Licensure

FOR the purpose of authorizing ~~Baltimore City to enact and enforce local laws~~ a certain enforcement officer to enforce provisions regulating the sale and distribution of cigarettes, other tobacco products, and electronic smoking devices, ~~subject to certain exceptions~~; authorizing the Executive Director of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission to reprimand a licensee or suspend or revoke a license for a violation identified under this Act; requiring the Comptroller to distribute a certain amount of the licensure authorization request fees collected under certain provisions of this Act to the Family League of Baltimore City, Inc. in a certain manner; requiring an applicant for a certain initial or renewal license to request a licensure authorization from the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City and pay a certain fee; and generally relating to the regulation of cigarettes, other tobacco products, and electronic smoking devices in Baltimore City.

~~BY adding to~~
~~Article – Business Regulation~~
~~Section 16-308.4, 16.5-104, and 16.7-103~~
~~Annotated Code of Maryland~~
~~(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Business Regulation
Section 16-102, 16-216, 16-302, 16-308.2, 16.5-102, 16.5-203(b), 16.5-213,
16.7-102, and 16.7-202(b), and 16.7-212
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Business Regulation
Section 16-302.1, 16.5-201.1, and 16.7-201.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Business Regulation

~~16-308.4.~~



~~EXCEPT FOR THE ISSUANCE OF LICENSES UNDER THIS TITLE OR THE IMPOSITION OF TAXES ON CIGARETTES UNDER TITLE 12 OF THE TAX GENERAL ARTICLE, THE BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL MAY ENACT AND THE MAYOR OF BALTIMORE CITY MAY ENFORCE LOCAL LAWS THAT ARE AT LEAST AS STRINGENT AS THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE THAT REGULATE THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF CIGARETTES.~~

~~16.5 104.~~

~~EXCEPT FOR THE ISSUANCE OF LICENSES UNDER THIS TITLE OR THE IMPOSITION OF TAXES ON OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS UNDER TITLE 12 OF THE TAX GENERAL ARTICLE, THE BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL MAY ENACT AND THE MAYOR OF BALTIMORE CITY MAY ENFORCE LOCAL LAWS THAT ARE AT LEAST AS STRINGENT AS THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE THAT REGULATE THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS.~~

~~16.7 103.~~

~~EXCEPT FOR THE ISSUANCE OF LICENSES UNDER THIS TITLE, THE BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL MAY ENACT AND THE MAYOR OF BALTIMORE CITY MAY ENFORCE LOCAL LAWS THAT ARE AT LEAST AS STRINGENT AS THE PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE THAT REGULATE THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF ELECTRONIC SMOKING DEVICES.~~

16-102.

(A) The Executive Director may delegate any power or duty of the Executive Director under this title.

(B) (1) IN BALTIMORE CITY, AN A SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE TOBACCO USE PREVENTION AND CESSATION PROGRAM IN THE A BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AGENCY MAY ENFORCE THIS TITLE, INCLUDING BY ENTERING AND INSPECTING, AT A REASONABLE TIME, THE PREMISES OF A COUNTY LICENSE HOLDER.

(2) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 16-307 OF THIS TITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REPRIMAND A LICENSEE OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE FOR A VIOLATION IDENTIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

16-216.



(a) (1) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE Executive Director shall pay into the General Fund of the State all license fees collected under this title.

[(b)] (2) The General Assembly intends that these license fees be used to:

[(1)] (I) administer this title; and

[(2)] (II) enforce the Maryland Cigarette Sales Below Cost Act.

(B) (1) THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL REMIT 50% OF ALL LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FEES COLLECTED UNDER § 16-302.1 OF THIS TITLE TO THE COMPTROLLER.

(2) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE FEES TO THE FAMILY LEAGUE OF BALTIMORE CITY, INC. IN A MANNER THAT IS:

(I) CONSISTENT WITH THE PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY UNDER § 16-302.1 OF THIS TITLE; AND

(II) PROPORTIONAL TO THE NUMBER OF LICENSEES OPERATING IN EACH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT.

16-302.

(a) For each county license, an applicant shall:

(1) submit an application to the clerk; and

(2) pay to the clerk a license fee of \$300.

(b) (1) From each license fee collected under subsection (a) of this section, the clerk shall distribute:

(i) \$25 to the Executive Director;

(ii) in Montgomery County, \$275 to the county to be used to enforce existing laws banning the sale or distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, or electronic smoking devices, as defined in § 16.7-101 of this article, to individuals under the age of 21 years; and

(iii) in all other counties, \$275 to the Maryland Department of Health to be used by the Department or its designee to enforce existing laws prohibiting the sale



or distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, or electronic smoking devices, as defined in § 16.7–101 of this article, to individuals under the age of 21 years.

(2) Funds distributed under paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection may not be used to supplant existing funding for the enforcement of laws banning the sale or distribution of tobacco or tobacco products to individuals under the age of 21 years.

(C) IN BALTIMORE CITY, IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE CLERK A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION ISSUED UNDER § 16–302.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

16–302.1.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE CITY.

(B) BEFORE A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE UNDER THIS TITLE, THE PERSON SHALL REQUEST A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY.

(C) THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY MAY:

(1) ESTABLISH AND CHARGE A FEE FOR A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST MADE UNDER THIS SECTION OR § 16.5–201.1 OR § 16.7–202.1 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND

(2) ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE OR DENY LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS MADE UNDER THIS SECTION AND §§ 16.5–201.1 AND 16.7–202.1 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(D) IF A PROCESS IS ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL INCLUDE AS PART OF THE PROCESS:

(1) A REQUIREMENT THAT AN APPLICANT IS:

(I) IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL RELEVANT STATE AND LOCAL LAWS; AND

(II) OTHERWISE ENTITLED TO BE LICENSED; AND

(2) A MECHANISM FOR INCLUDING THE BASIS FOR ANY DENIAL OF A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST THAT IS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.



(D) IF AN APPLICANT IS DENIED A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REVIEW THE BASIS FOR THE DENIAL.

16-308.2.

(a) In this section, “unpackaged cigarette” means any cigarette not contained in a sealed package of 20 or more cigarettes that are designed and intended to be sold as a unit.

(b) This section applies only in Baltimore City.

(c) A person who holds a county license may not sell an unpackaged cigarette.

(d) (1) An enforcement officer of the Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program in the Baltimore City Health Department may enforce this section by entering and inspecting, at a reasonable time, the premises of a county license holder.

(2) An enforcement officer shall report a violation of this section to a State’s Attorney.

(3) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 16-307 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REPRIMAND A LICENSEE OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE FOR A VIOLATION IDENTIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(e) Issuance of a citation by the Comptroller or the Executive Director for a violation of § 16-215 of this title precludes a prosecution for a violation under this section arising out of the same incident.

16.5-102.

(A) The Executive Director may delegate any power or duty of the Executive Director.

(B) (1) IN BALTIMORE CITY, ~~AN A SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE TOBACCO USE PREVENTION AND CESSATION PROGRAM IN THE A BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT~~ AGENCY MAY ENFORCE THIS TITLE, INCLUDING BY ENTERING AND INSPECTING, AT A REASONABLE TIME, THE PREMISES OF A COUNTY LICENSE HOLDER.

(2) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 16.5-209 OF THIS TITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REPRIMAND A LICENSEE OR SUSPEND OR



REVOKE A LICENSE FOR A VIOLATION IDENTIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

16.5–201.1.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE CITY.

(B) BEFORE A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE UNDER THIS TITLE, THE PERSON SHALL REQUEST A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY.

(C) IF AN APPLICANT IS DENIED A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REVIEW THE BASIS FOR THE DENIAL.

16.5–203.

(b) (1) An applicant for a license to act as an other tobacco products retailer or a tobacconist:

(i) shall obtain a county license by submitting to the clerk an application for each permanent or temporary place of business located in the same enclosure and operated by the same applicant; and

(ii) except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, shall pay to the clerk a fee of \$15.

(2) A person who has a license issued under Title 16 of this article to act as a cigarette retailer or to act as a special cigarette retailer is not required to pay the license fee.

(3) The application shall:

(i) be made on the form that the clerk requires; and

(ii) contain the information that the Executive Director requires.

(4) IN BALTIMORE CITY, IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN APPLICANT FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE CLERK A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION ISSUED UNDER § 16.5–201.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

16.5–213.



(a) (1) (I) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE Executive Director shall pay into the General Fund of the State all license fees collected under this title.

[(2)] (II) All license fees collected by the counties are subject to the distribution provisions of § 17–206 of this article.

[(b)] (2) The General Assembly intends that these license fees be used to administer this title.

(B) (1) THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL REMIT 50% OF ALL LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FEES COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 16–302.1 OF THIS ARTICLE TO THE COMPTROLLER.

(2) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE FEES TO THE FAMILY LEAGUE OF BALTIMORE CITY, INC. IN A MANNER THAT IS:

(I) CONSISTENT WITH THE PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY UNDER § 16–302.1 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND

(II) PROPORTIONAL TO THE NUMBER OF LICENSEES OPERATING IN EACH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT.

16.7–102.

(a) The Executive Director may delegate any power or duty of the Executive Director under this title.

(b) (1) IN BALTIMORE CITY, ~~AN A SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE TOBACCO USE PREVENTION AND CESSATION PROGRAM IN THE A BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT~~ AGENCY MAY ENFORCE THIS TITLE, INCLUDING BY ENTERING AND INSPECTING, AT A REASONABLE TIME, THE PREMISES OF A COUNTY LICENSE HOLDER.

(2) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 16.7–208 OF THIS TITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REPRIMAND A LICENSEE OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE FOR A VIOLATION IDENTIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(C) Any person licensed under Title 16 or Title 16.5 of this article, or an affiliate, as defined under § 16–402(c) of this article, of a person licensed under Title 16 of this article:



(1) is authorized to manufacture, distribute, or sell electronic smoking devices pursuant to this title in the same capacity as the person is licensed under Title 16 or Title 16.5 of this article; and

(2) may not be required to obtain an additional license under this title.

16.7-201.1.

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE CITY.

(B) BEFORE A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE UNDER THIS TITLE, THE PERSON SHALL REQUEST A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY.

(C) IF AN APPLICANT IS DENIED A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REVIEW THE BASIS FOR THE DENIAL.

16.7-202.

(b) (1) An applicant for a license to act as an electronic smoking devices retailer or a vape shop vendor:

(i) shall obtain a county license by submitting to the clerk an application for each permanent or temporary place of business located in the same enclosure and operated by the same applicant; and

(ii) except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, shall pay to the clerk a fee of \$300.

(2) The application shall:

(i) be made on the form that the clerk requires; and

(ii) contain the information that the Executive Director requires.

(3) (i) From each license fee collected under this subsection, the clerk shall distribute:

1. \$25 to the Executive Director; and

2. \$275 to the Maryland Department of Health to be used by the Department or its designee to enforce existing laws prohibiting the sale or distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, or electronic smoking devices, as defined in § 16.7-101 of this title, to individuals under the age of 21 years.



(ii) Funds distributed under this subsection may not be used to supplant existing funding for the enforcement of laws banning the sale or distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, or electronic smoking devices to individuals under the age of 21 years.

(4) IN BALTIMORE CITY, IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN APPLICANT FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE CLERK A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION ISSUED UNDER § 16.7-201.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

16.7-212.

(a) (1) (I) [The] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE Executive Director shall pay into the General Fund of the State all license fees collected under this title.

[(2)] (II) All license fees collected by the counties under this title are subject to the distribution provisions of § 17-205 of this article.

[(b)] (2) The General Assembly intends that these license fees be used to administer this title.

(B) (1) THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL REMIT 50% OF ALL LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION FEES COLLECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 16-302.1 OF THIS ARTICLE TO THE COMPTROLLER.

(2) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE FEES TO THE FAMILY LEAGUE OF BALTIMORE CITY, INC. IN A MANNER THAT IS:

(I) CONSISTENT WITH THE PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY UNDER § 16-302.1 OF THIS ARTICLE; AND

(II) PROPORTIONAL TO THE NUMBER OF LICENSEES OPERATING IN EACH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City may not issue a licensure authorization under § 16-302.1, § 16.5-201.1, or § 16.7-201.1 of the Business Regulation Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, for an initial licensure applicant between October 1, 2026, and October 1, 2027, both inclusive.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.



Approved by the Governor, May 12, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Sale for Off-Premises Consumption

SB0072**HB0121****STATUTES AFFECTED:** Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 13-1104**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Authorizes Class B and Class D license holders to obtain a permit to sell mixed drinks or cocktails in sealed or closed containers for off-premises consumption.
- Requires customers to purchase prepared food (excluding prepackaged snacks) along with the mixed drink or cocktail.
- Mandates that purchasers be at least 21 years old and provide valid identification as proof of age.
- Requires sealed containers — either the manufacturer’s original sealed container or a container closed with a cap, cork, seal, or lid with no holes for straws or sipping.
- Sets a sales cutoff of 11 p.m. for off-premises mixed drinks and cocktails.
- Prohibits the Board from charging license holders an additional fee for selling alcoholic beverages under this section.
- Conditions the law’s application on the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore County first adopting regulations that authorize off-premises sales under this section.
- Requires the Board to consider the public health impacts of off-premises alcohol sales before adopting these regulations.
- Authorizes the Board to limit the quantity of alcoholic beverages sold to an individual in a single transaction.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 816

(Senate Bill 72)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore County – Alcoholic Beverages – Sale for Off-Premises Consumption

FOR the purpose of providing that certain authorization for the holders of certain licenses to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption in a certain manner applies only if the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore County has adopted certain regulations; authorizing the holders of certain licenses in Baltimore County that authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages at a restaurant or bar to sell certain alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption under certain circumstances; prohibiting the Board from charging a certain license holder an additional fee under certain circumstances; authorizing a local licensing board to limit the quantity of alcoholic beverages sold to an individual in a single transaction; and generally relating to the sale of alcoholic beverages at restaurants and bars in Baltimore County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 13–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 13–1104
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

13–102.

This title applies only in Baltimore County.

13–1104.

(A) (1) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IF THE BOARD HAS ADOPTED REGULATIONS TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.



(2) IN CONSIDERING WHETHER TO ADOPT REGULATIONS UNDER THIS SECTION, THE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS OF THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION.

(B) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A CLASS B OR CLASS D LICENSE THAT AUTHORIZES THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON-PREMISES AND OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION AT A RESTAURANT OR BAR.

(2) A LICENSE HOLDER UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY OBTAIN A PERMIT FROM THE BOARD THAT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL, IF AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HOLDER’S LICENSE, MIXED DRINKS OR COCKTAILS IN SEALED OR CLOSED CONTAINERS FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION IF:

(I) THE MIXED DRINK OR COCKTAIL IS PURCHASED ALONG WITH PREPARED FOOD OTHER THAN PREPACKAGED SNACKS;

(II) THE INDIVIDUAL PURCHASING THE MIXED DRINK OR COCKTAIL:

1. IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD; AND

2. PROVIDES VALID IDENTIFICATION AS PROOF OF AGE;

AND

(III) EACH MIXED DRINK OR COCKTAIL SOLD FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION IS:

1. PROVIDED IN THE MANUFACTURER’S ORIGINAL SEALED CONTAINER OR IN A CONTAINER CLOSED WITH A CAP, CORK, SEAL, OR LID WITH NO HOLES FOR STRAWS OR SIPPING; AND

2. SOLD NOT LATER THAN 11 P.M.

(C) THE BOARD:

(1) MAY NOT CHARGE A LICENSE HOLDER AN ADDITIONAL FEE FOR SELLING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION; AND

(2) MAY LIMIT THE QUANTITY OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES THAT MAY BE SOLD UNDER THIS SECTION TO AN INDIVIDUAL IN A SINGLE TRANSACTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.



Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 815

(House Bill 121)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore County – Alcoholic Beverages – Sale for Off-Premises Consumption

FOR the purpose of providing that certain authorization for the holders of certain licenses to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption in a certain manner applies only if the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore County has adopted certain regulations; authorizing the holders of certain licenses in Baltimore County that authorize the sale of alcoholic beverages at a restaurant or bar to sell certain alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption under certain circumstances; prohibiting the Board from charging a certain license holder an additional fee under certain circumstances; authorizing a local licensing board to limit the quantity of alcoholic beverages sold to an individual in a single transaction; and generally relating to the sale of alcoholic beverages at restaurants and bars in Baltimore County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 13–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 13–1104
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

13–102.

This title applies only in Baltimore County.

13–1104.

(A) (1) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IF THE BOARD HAS ADOPTED REGULATIONS TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION.



(2) IN CONSIDERING WHETHER TO ADOPT REGULATIONS UNDER THIS SECTION, THE BOARD SHALL CONSIDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS OF THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION.

(B) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES ONLY TO A CLASS B OR CLASS D LICENSE THAT AUTHORIZES THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR ON-PREMISES AND OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION AT A RESTAURANT OR BAR.

(2) A LICENSE HOLDER UNDER THIS SUBSECTION MAY OBTAIN A PERMIT FROM THE BOARD THAT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL, IF AUTHORIZED UNDER THE HOLDER'S LICENSE, MIXED DRINKS OR COCKTAILS IN SEALED OR CLOSED CONTAINERS FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION IF:

(I) THE MIXED DRINK OR COCKTAIL IS PURCHASED ALONG WITH PREPARED FOOD OTHER THAN PREPACKAGED SNACKS;

(II) THE INDIVIDUAL PURCHASING THE MIXED DRINK OR COCKTAIL:

1. IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD; AND

2. PROVIDES VALID IDENTIFICATION AS PROOF OF AGE;

AND

(III) EACH MIXED DRINK OR COCKTAIL SOLD FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION IS:

1. PROVIDED IN THE MANUFACTURER'S ORIGINAL SEALED CONTAINER OR IN A CONTAINER CLOSED WITH A CAP, CORK, SEAL, OR LID WITH NO HOLES FOR STRAWS OR SIPPING; AND

2. SOLD NOT LATER THAN 11 P.M.

(C) THE BOARD:

(1) MAY NOT CHARGE A LICENSE HOLDER AN ADDITIONAL FEE FOR SELLING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION; AND

(2) MAY LIMIT THE QUANTITY OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES THAT MAY BE SOLD UNDER THIS SECTION TO AN INDIVIDUAL IN A SINGLE TRANSACTION.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.



Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages Licenses - Transfers and Conversions

HB1474



STATUTES AFFECTED:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 13-1604(c)(6) and (f), 13-1705, 13-1706, 13-1707, and 13-1709.



EFFECTIVE DATE:

Section 2 (the repeals) to take effect October 1, 2026. General bill provisions take effect July 1, 2026.

SUMMARY

- Deletes language that previously barred Class B or D licenses from being transferred to another election district.
- Strikes the provisions that prohibited the Board from further transferring or converting a Class D license once it had been converted to a Class B license, and prohibited the Board from transferring or converting new licenses issued due to population growth or licenses that had been revoked and reissued.
 - The Board’s duty to convert a transferred Class D license into a Class B license is retained.
- Repeals four sections governing special-area license programs in Baltimore County:
 - The Towson Commercial Revitalization District licenses (§ 13–1705),
 - The Hunt Valley licenses (§ 13–1706),
 - The Quarry at Greenspring/Metro Center at Owings Mills/Promenade at Catonsville licenses (§ 13–1707), and
 - The Maryland State Fair license (§ 13–1709).
- Adds a provision requiring that, notwithstanding population quota limits, six categories of existing Class B special-area licenses be converted into standard Class B hotel and restaurant licenses under § 13–902. The affected licenses are:
 - The Towson Commercial Revitalization District, Hunt Valley (HV), Quarry/Metro Center/Promenade (QG, MCOM, PC), Maryland State Fair (MSF), Owings Mills Town Center (OMTC), and Town Revitalization District (TRD) licenses. The amended version sets the conversion trigger date as licenses in existence on July 1, 2026.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 832

(House Bill 1474)

AN ACT concerning

Baltimore County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Transfers and Conversions

FOR the purpose of repealing certain prohibitions on a transfer to different premises or a conversion to a different class of license that apply to certain alcoholic beverages licenses issued, reissued, or transferred by the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore County; requiring certain Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses in existence on a certain date to be converted into certain Class B hotel and restaurant licenses before a certain date; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Baltimore County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 13–102 and 13–1604(a), (b)(1) and (2), and (e)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section ~~13–1604(f)~~ 13–1604(c)(6) and (f)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 13–1705, 13–1706, 13–1707, and 13–1709
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

13–102.

This title applies only in Baltimore County.

13–1604.

(a) In this section, “eligible transferor district” means an election district in which the total number of Class B and Class D licenses, excluding exception licenses, is 10% or



greater than the total number of Class B and Class D licenses that are allowed in an election district based on the rule of the Board that limits the total number of licenses available in an election district by population.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection, the Board may approve the transfer of a Class B or Class D license in existence in an eligible transferor district on June 1, 2025, to another election district if:

(i) the approval occurs anytime from June 1, 2025, to May 31, 2028, both inclusive; and

(ii) prior to the transfer, the number of licenses in existence in the election district to which the license is to be transferred is not greater than 25% more than the number of licenses that would otherwise exist in that election district, based on the rule of the Board that limits the total number of licenses available in an election district by population.

(2) (i) The Board may not authorize the transfer of more than five Class B or Class D licenses in existence on June 1, 2025, in total under this section.

(ii) Not more than two licenses may be transferred under this subsection into any single election district.

(c) (6) A [Class B or D license transferred under subsection (b) of this section or a] Class B Service Bar (SB) license issued under this subsection may not thereafter be transferred from the licensed premises or converted to another class of license.

(e) (1) When a license is transferred from an eligible transferor district to another election district under this section, the license does not continue to exist in the eligible transferor district from which it was transferred.

(2) Subject to the 25% allowance authorized in subsection (b)(1)(ii) of this section, the Board shall consider a license transferred under this section to be a regular license and not an exception license for determining the total number of licenses available in an election district based on the rule of the Board.

(f) [(1)] The Board[:

(i)] shall convert a Class D license that is transferred from an eligible transferor district to any other election district to a Class B license[: and

(ii) may not thereafter transfer the Class B license from the licensed premises or convert the license to another class of license.

(2) The Board may not transfer from a licensed premises or convert a license to another class of license:



- (i) a new license issued by the Board based on an increase in population under the rule of the Board limiting the total number of licenses available by population; or
- (ii) a license that has been revoked and reissued by the Board].

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

[13–1705.

(a) (1) Notwithstanding the license population quota limitations established by the Board and in addition to the licenses authorized for issuance in the county, the Board may authorize the transfer into the Towson Commercial Revitalization District, as defined by the Baltimore County Council, of not more than 10 beer, wine, and liquor (on–sale) licenses that:

- (i) were issued on or before December 31, 2008;
- (ii) were in existence in Election District 15 of the county on June 1, 2009; and
- (iii) are valid on the date of transfer.

(2) To be transferred under this section, a license:

- (i) shall be a Class B or a Class D license; and
- (ii) may not be a license that is prohibited from being transferred by statute or regulation.

(3) For determining the total number of licenses available in an election district, the Board shall consider a license transferred under this section to be a regular license and not an exception to the population and numerical limitations specified in “Rule 19 – Population and Numerical Limitations” of the Rules and Regulations of the Board.

(4) On the date of transfer, a license transferred under this section shall be converted into a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (Towson Commercial Revitalization District) license and may not be counted toward any population limit existing in the election district from where it was transferred.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the license issuance requirements, license fee, minimum square foot area requirement for food and beverage



preparation and consumption, and days and hours of sale for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (Towson Commercial Revitalization District) (on-sale) license are the same as those for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) hotel and restaurant license.

(c) (1) A Class B beer, wine, and liquor (Towson Commercial Revitalization District) license may be issued only for a location within the Towson Commercial Revitalization District, as defined by the Baltimore County Council.

(2) The license shall be used in conjunction with the operation of a restaurant, as defined in this article and in the regulations of the Board.

(3) The restaurant operation shall maintain average daily receipts from the sale of food of at least 60% of the total daily receipts of the restaurant.

(4) The seating capacity for the bar area may not exceed 25% of the total seating capacity of the restaurant.

(5) Except as provided in subsection (d)(2)(ii) of this section, the area dedicated to the restaurant operation shall have a minimum seating capacity of 100 individuals.

(6) The hours during which the privileges conferred by the license may be exercised may not exceed the hours during which food is offered for sale.

(7) The license does not confer an off-sale privilege.

(d) Of the restaurants for which a Class B or Class D license may be transferred and a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (Towson Commercial Revitalization District) license may be issued under subsection (a)(1) of this section, the Board may require that:

(1) for not more than seven restaurants, applicants for license transfer and issuance demonstrate a minimum capital investment, excluding the costs of the land and building shell, of \$500,000; and

(2) for not more than three restaurants:

(i) applicants for license transfer and issuance demonstrate a capital investment, excluding the costs of the land and building shell, of not less than \$50,000 or more than \$400,000; and

(ii) the area dedicated to the restaurant operation have:

1. a maximum seating capacity of 100 individuals, with the seating capacity in the bar area not exceeding 25% of the total seating capacity of the restaurant; and



2. a minimum seating capacity of 40 individuals.

(e) The Board shall deny an application for transfer of a Class B or Class D license and issuance of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (Towson Commercial Revitalization District) license if within 2 years immediately preceding the application:

(1) (i) the applicant was a holder of an on-sale license within the boundaries of the Towson Commercial Revitalization District; or

(ii) there was an on-sale license in existence for the proposed premises of the applicant; and

(2) the previous on-sale license was transferred to premises outside the Towson Commercial Revitalization District.

(f) A Class B beer, wine, and liquor (Towson Commercial Revitalization District) license issued under this section may not be transferred from the Towson Commercial Revitalization District or be converted into any other class of license.]

[13-1706.

(a) (1) Notwithstanding the license population quota limitations established by the Board and in addition to the licenses authorized for issuance in the county, the Board may authorize the transfer into the “Hunt Valley Commercial/Mixed Use Focal Point” as designated in the Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan, adopted by the Baltimore County Council on October 19, 1998, of two beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) retail licenses that:

(i) were in existence in Election District 15 on July 1, 2004; and

(ii) are valid on the date of transfer.

(2) A license transferred under this section:

(i) may not be a Class A or C license or a license that is prohibited from being transferred by law or local regulation other than crossing district lines;

(ii) shall be converted into a Class B (HV) license; and

(iii) as of the date of transfer, may not be counted toward any population limit existing in Election District 15.

(3) For determining the total number of licenses available in an election district, the Board shall consider a license transferred under this section to be a regular license and not an exception to the population and numerical limitations specified in “Rule 19 – Population and Numerical Limitations” of the Rules and Regulations of the Board.



(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the license issuance requirements, license fee, minimum square foot area requirement for food and beverage preparation and consumption, and days and hours of sale for a Class B (HV) restaurant (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license are the same as those provided for in this article and in the regulations of the Board for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) hotel and restaurant license.

(c) (1) A Class B (HV) restaurant (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor retail license may be issued only for a location within the “Hunt Valley Commercial/Mixed Use Focal Point” as designated in the Hunt Valley/Timonium Master Plan, adopted by the Baltimore County Council on October 19, 1998.

(2) The license shall be used in conjunction with the operation of a restaurant, as defined in this article and the regulations of the Board.

(3) The restaurant operation shall maintain average daily receipts from the sale of food of at least 60% of the total daily receipts of the establishment.

(4) The total seating capacity for the area dedicated primarily for the consumption of alcoholic beverages may not exceed 25% of the total seating capacity of the establishment.

(5) Subject to subsection (d)(5) of this section, the hours during which the privileges conferred by the license may be exercised may not exceed the hours for which food is offered for sale.

(d) (1) The Class B (HV) restaurant beer, wine, and liquor license authorizes on-premises consumption.

(2) Once issued, the license may not be:

(i) transferred to a new location other than the original location for which the license was issued; or

(ii) converted into any other class of license.

(3) Paragraph (2) of this subsection does not prohibit the transfer of ownership of the license.

(4) The premises shall comply with all applicable zoning regulations.

(5) Alcoholic beverages may be sold in the establishment only until 1:30 a.m.

(e) The Board may not issue more than a total of three beer, wine, and liquor licenses in the “Hunt Valley Commercial/Mixed Use Focal Point” under the exceptions in



“Rule 19 – Population and Numerical Limitations” of the Rules and Regulations of the Board.]

[13–1707.

(a) (1) Notwithstanding the license population quota limitations established by the Board and in addition to the licenses authorized for issuance in the county, the Board may authorize the transfer of the number of Class B and Class D beer, wine, and liquor (on–sale) retail licenses in existence in Election District 15 on January 15, 2005, and valid on the date of transfer, in accordance with the following schedule:

(i) two to the Quarry at Greenspring, to be known as (QG) licenses, on or after April 1, 2005, located at lots 1 through 9, inclusive, identified on the plat of Greenspring Quarry, areas F, G, and K, dated December 21, 2004, and delivered to the county for recording on December 29, 2004;

(ii) three to the area of State–owned land adjacent to and abutting the Owings Mills Metro Station, governed by a master development agreement creating the Metro Center at Owings Mills, to be known as (MCOM) licenses, on or after October 1, 2005; and

(iii) three to the Promenade at Catonsville, to be known as (PC) licenses, on or after April 1, 2006, located at and identified by the State Department of Assessments and Taxation map 101, parcels 132, 516, 1088, 1344, 1804, and 1985.

(2) A license transferred from Election District 15 under this section:

(i) may not be a Class A or Class C license or a license that is prohibited from being transferred by law or local regulation other than the prohibition against crossing district lines;

(ii) for determining the total number of licenses available in an election district, shall be considered to be a regular license in its new location and not an exception to the population and numerical limitations specified in “Rule 19 – Population and Numerical Limitations” of the Rules and Regulations of the Board;

(iii) shall be converted into a Class B (QG), (MCOM), or (PC) license; and

(iv) as of the date of transfer, may not be counted toward any population limit existing in Election District 15.

(b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, the license issuance and renewal requirements, minimum square foot area requirement for food and beverage preparation and consumption, and days and hours of sale for a Class B (QG), (MCOM), or (PC) restaurant (on–sale) beer, wine, and liquor retail license are the same as those



provided for in this article and in the regulations of the Board for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) hotel and restaurant license.

(c) (1) A Class B (QG), (MCOM), or (PC) restaurant (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor retail license may be issued only for a location within the geographic areas identified in subsection (a)(1) of this section.

(2) The license shall be used in conjunction with the operation of a restaurant, as defined in this article and the regulations of the Board.

(3) The restaurant operation shall maintain average daily receipts from the sale of food of at least 60% of the total daily receipts of the establishment.

(4) The total seating capacity for the area dedicated primarily for the consumption of alcoholic beverages may not exceed 25% of the total seating capacity of the establishment.

(5) Subject to subsection (d)(5) of this section, the hours during which the privileges conferred by the license may be exercised may not exceed the hours for which food is offered for sale.

(d) (1) A Class B (QG), (MCOM), or (PC) restaurant (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor retail license authorizes on-premises consumption.

(2) Once issued, the license may not be:

(i) transferred to a new location outside the geographic area, as defined in subsection (a)(1) of this section, for which the license was issued; or

(ii) converted into any other class of license.

(3) Paragraph (2) of this subsection does not prohibit the transfer of:

(i) the ownership of a license; or

(ii) the location of a licensed establishment within the geographic area as defined in subsection (a)(1) of this section.

(4) The premises shall comply with all applicable zoning regulations.

(5) Alcoholic beverages may be sold in the establishment only until 1:30 a.m.]

[13-1709.



(a) (1) Notwithstanding any license quota limitation established by the Board and in addition to the licenses authorized for issuance in the county, the Board may authorize the transfer of one Class B or Class D beer, wine, and liquor license in existence in Election District 15 on January 15, 2016, and valid on the date of transfer, to a location that is:

(i) at 2200 York Road and surrounding grounds in Election District 8; and

(ii) owned by the Maryland State Fair and Agricultural Society, Inc.

(2) A license transferred under this section:

(i) may not be a license that is prohibited from being transferred by law or Board regulation, other than a prohibition against crossing district lines;

(ii) for determining the total number of licenses available in Election District 8, shall be considered to be a regular license and not an exception to the population and numerical limitations specified in “Rule 19 – Population and Numerical Limitations” of the Rules and Regulations of the Board;

(iii) shall be converted into a Class B (MSF)(on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license; and

(iv) as of the date of transfer, may not be counted toward any population limit existing in Election District 15.

(b) The issuance and renewal requirements, minimum square foot area requirement for food and beverage preparation and consumption, and hours and days of sale for the Class B (MSF) license are the same as those provided for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) hotel and restaurant license.

(c) (1) The Class B (MSF) license may not be:

(i) transferred to a location outside the area for which the license was issued; or

(ii) converted into another class of license.

(2) The location for the Class B (MSF) license shall comply with all applicable zoning regulations.]

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding any license population quota limitation established by the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore County, the following Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses in existence on July



1, 2026, shall be converted into Class B hotel and restaurant licenses under § 13–902 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article:

(1) Class B (Towson Commercial Revitalization District) licenses under § 13–1705 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article;

(2) Class B (HV) restaurant (on–sale) licenses under § 13–1706 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article;

(3) Class B (QG), (MCOM), or (PC) restaurant (on–sale) licenses under § 13–1707 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article;

(4) Class B (MSF) (on–sale) licenses under § 13–1709 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article;

(5) Class B (OMTC) (on–sale) licenses established under Chapter 423 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996; and

(6) Class B (TRD) restaurant (on–sale) licenses established under Chapter 365 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2003.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 2 of this Act shall take effect October 1, 2026.

SECTION ~~2~~ 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Class 1 Distillery On-Premises Consumption Permit

HB1526



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 16-401 and 16-406



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Creates a new on-site consumption permit in Carroll County that the local licensing board can give to Class 1 distilleries.
- The new permit is a variation of the general on-site consumption permit for Class 1 Distilleries set out in AB § 2–202(i).
- Allows distilleries to sell, prepare, and serve food, nonalcoholic drinks, and their own spirits (such as brandy, rum, whiskey, and neutral spirits) for customers to drink there or take home.
- Requires the Carroll County Health Department to approve any food and nonalcoholic beverage service.
- Permits distilleries to use their property to hold events, as long as any alcohol served follows the permit’s rules.
- Applicants must submit a diagram showing where customers will consume alcohol and clearly separating that area from where the distillery makes its products.
- The Board of License Commissioners must create regulations to run the program and set the yearly permit fee.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 836

(House Bill 1526)

AN ACT concerning

**Carroll County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class 1 Distillery On–Premises
Consumption Permit**

FOR the purpose of establishing in Carroll County a Class 1 distillery on–premises consumption permit; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Carroll County to issue the permit to a holder of a Class 1 distillery license; authorizing the holder of the permit to sell, prepare, and serve certain food, nonalcoholic beverages, and alcoholic beverages for on–premises consumption; authorizing the holder of the permit to use the licensed premises for events; and generally relating to Class 1 distillery on–premises consumption permits in Carroll County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 2–202(a), (e), and (i) and 16–102
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 16–401
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 16–406
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

2–202.

(a) There is a Class 1 distillery license.

(e) Subject to subsection (f) of this section, a license holder may conduct the activities specified in subsections (c)(5) and (i)(2) of this section from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. each day.



(i) (1) A local licensing board may grant an on-site consumption permit for use at the location of the Class 1 distillery license to a holder of a Class 1 distillery license.

(2) (i) The permit authorizes the holder to sell mixed drinks made from liquor that the holder produces that is mixed with other nonalcoholic ingredients for on-premises consumption.

(ii) The holder may not use more than an aggregate of 7,750 gallons annually of liquor the holder produces for mixed drinks sold under subparagraph (i) of this paragraph.

(3) A local licensing board:

(i) may establish and charge a permit fee; and

(ii) shall require the permit holder to:

1. comply with the alcohol awareness requirements under § 4-505 of this article; and

2. abide by all applicable trade practice restrictions.

16-102.

This title applies only in Carroll County.

16-401.

(a) The following sections of Title 2, Subtitle 2 (“Manufacturer’s Licenses”) of Division I of this article apply in the county without exception or variation:

(1) § 2-201 (“Issuance by Comptroller”);

(2) [§ 2-202 (“Class 1 distillery license”);

(3)] § 2-203 (“Class 9 limited distillery license”);

[(4)] (3) § 2-204 (“Class 2 rectifying license”);

[(5)] (4) § 2-205 (“Class 3 winery license”);

[(6)] (5) § 2-207 (“Class 5 brewery license”);

[(7)] (6) § 2-210 (“Class 8 farm brewery license”);



[(8)] (7) § 2–211 (“Residency requirement”);

[(9)] (8) § 2–212 (“Additional licenses”);

[(10)] (9) § 2–213 (“Additional fees”);

[(11)] (10) § 2–214 (“Sale or delivery restricted”);

[(12)] (11) § 2–216 (“Interaction between manufacturing entities and retailers”);

[(13)] (12) § 2–217 (“Distribution of alcoholic beverages — Prohibited practices”); and

[(14)] (13) § 2–218 (“Restrictive agreements between producers and retailers — Prohibited”).

(b) Section 2–215 (“Beer sale on credit to retail dealer prohibited”) of Division I of this article does not apply in the county.

(c) The following sections of Title 2, Subtitle 2 (“Manufacturer’s Licenses”) of Division I of this article apply in the county:

(1) **§ 2–202 (“CLASS 1 DISTILLERY LICENSE”), SUBJECT TO § 16–406 OF THIS SUBTITLE;**

(2) § 2–206 (“Class 4 limited winery license”), subject to § 16–403 of this subtitle;

[(2)] (3) § 2–208 (“Class 6 pub–brewery license”), subject to § 16–404 of this subtitle; and

[(3)] (4) § 2–209 (“Class 7 micro–brewery license”), subject to § 16–405 of this subtitle.

16–406.

(A) **THERE IS A CLASS 1 DISTILLERY ON–SITE CONSUMPTION PERMIT.**

(B) **THE PERMIT MAY BE ISSUED TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS 1 DISTILLERY LICENSE.**

(C) **THE PERMIT SERVES AS THE ON–PREMISES CONSUMPTION PERMIT REQUIRED UNDER § 2–202(E) AND (I) OF THIS ARTICLE.**



(D) (1) THE PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL, PREPARE, AND SERVE:

~~(1)~~ **(I) FOOD;**

~~(2)~~ **(II) NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; AND**

~~(3)~~ **(III) ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, INCLUDING BRANDY, RUM, WHISKEY, AND NEUTRAL SPIRITS THAT ARE DISTILLED, RECTIFIED, BLENDED, AND BOTTLED AT THE DISTILLERY FOR ON- AND OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION TO THE EXTENT THE PERMIT HOLDER IS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE CLASS 1 DISTILLERY LICENSE.**

~~(E)~~ **(2) THE AUTHORIZATION TO SELL, PREPARE, AND SERVE FOOD AND NONALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES UNDER THIS SECTION SUBSECTION IS SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE CARROLL COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT.**

(E) (1) THE PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO USE THE LICENSED PREMISES FOR EVENTS.

(2) ANY ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT AN EVENT HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SHALL COMPLY WITH SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION.

(F) AN APPLICATION FOR A PERMIT UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE A DIAGRAM OF THE PROPOSED AREA FOR CONSUMPTION UNDER THE PERMIT AND SHOW CLEAR DELINEATION FROM THE MANUFACTURING AND PROCESSING FACILITIES.

(G) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION AND TO SET THE ANNUAL PERMIT FEE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Alteration of License Quota

SB0897

HB0664



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 17-1601



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Changes the Cecil county alcoholic beverages licenses per capita ratio to limit Class A licenses only, and states that no other class of license will be counted when computing the aggregate number of licenses.
- Raises the registered-voter ratio from a maximum of 1 license per 400 voters in each election district of the county to 1 license per 2,000 voters in each election district.
- Creates an exception to the ratio limit by requiring the board to issue no fewer than 2 Class A licenses in each election district of the county.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 826

(Senate Bill 897)

AN ACT concerning

Cecil County – Alcoholic Beverages – Alteration of License Quota

FOR the purpose of altering the quota on the number of alcoholic beverages licenses that the Board of License Commissioners for Cecil County may issue to apply only to Class A licenses based on a certain ratio; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Cecil County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 17–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 17–1601
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

17–102.

This title applies only in Cecil County.

17–1601.

(a) (1) ~~Subject to paragraph (2)~~ **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3)** of this subsection, the Board may not issue a number of **CLASS A** licenses that, in the aggregate, exceeds 1 for every [400] ~~1,200~~ **2,000** registered voters or major fraction in the county, as determined by the current registration of voters.

(2) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE NOT FEWER THAN 2 CLASS A LICENSES IN EACH ELECTION DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY.

~~(2)~~ **(3)** [A Class BLX beer, wine, and liquor restaurant license, Class C club license, motel–restaurant complex license, hotel–restaurant complex license, or Class GC (golf course) beer, wine, and liquor (on–sale) license] **NO OTHER CLASS OF LICENSE** may [not] be counted in the computation of the aggregate number of licenses.

(b) The quota shall be computed and applied separately for each election district of the county.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.





Chapter 825

(House Bill 664)

AN ACT concerning

Cecil County – Alcoholic Beverages – Alteration of License Quota

FOR the purpose of altering the quota on the number of alcoholic beverages licenses that the Board of License Commissioners for Cecil County may issue to apply only to Class A licenses based on a certain ratio; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Cecil County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 17–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 17–1601
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

17–102.

This title applies only in Cecil County.

17–1601.

(a) (1) ~~Subject to paragraph (2)~~ **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3)** of this subsection, the Board may not issue a number of **CLASS A** licenses that, in the aggregate, exceeds 1 for every [400] ~~1,200~~ **2,000** registered voters or major fraction in the county, as determined by the current registration of voters.

(2) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE NOT FEWER THAN 2 CLASS A LICENSES IN EACH ELECTION DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY.



~~(2)~~ **(3)** [A Class BLX beer, wine, and liquor restaurant license, Class C club license, motel–restaurant complex license, hotel–restaurant complex license, or Class GC (golf course) beer, wine, and liquor (on–sale) license] **NO OTHER CLASS OF LICENSE** may [not] be counted in the computation of the aggregate number of licenses.

(b) The quota shall be computed and applied separately for each election district of the county.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages Act of 2026

**SB0802
HB1203**



STATUTES AFFECTED:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 21–202(a) and (b), 21–204, 21–401, 21–405.1, 21–602, 21–803, 21–804, 21–804.1, 21–806, 21–902, 21–903, 21–903.1, 21–905, 21–1002.1, 21–1201, and 21–1408



EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Authorizes the Governor to appoint a substitute member to the Board of License Commissioners in addition to the three regular members.
 - Permits the substitute to serve when a quorum is unavailable due to illness or conflict of interest and grants all powers and duties of a regular member while serving.
 - Extends the County Commissioners’ salary-setting authority to expressly cover the substitute member.
- Creates a new Special Event Permit for Class 3 Winery and Class 4 Limited Winery licenses, allowing holders to sell beer, wine they produce, sparkling wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption at private events where the entire premises is rented.
 - Requires events to be booked at least 7 days in advance, and the Board must be notified at least 7 days before the event.
 - Permits services including food and beverage service, use of a licensed kitchen and bar facility, seating, and a fire-code-compliant assembly area.
 - Prohibits the permit holder from having any direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the carter or other contracted party.
 - Prohibits the holder from allowing the general public to enter any part of the licensed premises while a private event is held.
 - Requires beer, sparkling wine, and liquor sold under the permit to be purchased from a licensed county retailer, with receipts retained for one year and made available for inspection.
 - Mandates that service personnel (bartenders and wait staff) be present throughout, and that at least one permit holder or alcohol-awareness-certified employee be on site.

continued

SB0897 / HB0664

Alcoholic Beverages Act of 2026 — *continued*

- Caps permit usage at 32 times per calendar year, with each event extendable up to 7 days for the same client.
- Sets operating hours Monday–Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day; permits Sunday sales (6 a.m. to midnight) in Election Districts 11 and 15, plus any district approving Sunday sales by referendum.
- Prohibits the holder from storing outside alcoholic beverages on the licensed premises between events.
- Establishes an annual permit fee of \$1,750, with a matching one-time issuing fee.
- Catering Option (Class B Beer; Class B Beer & Wine; Class BDR Beer & Wine; Class BDR-DC Beer & Wine; Class D Beer & Wine; Class B Beer, Wine & Liquor; Class BDR Beer, Wine & Liquor; Class BDR-DC Beer, Wine & Liquor; Class D 75%; Class B-Resort Beer and Wine License)
 - Allows catered events to be held anywhere in the county, but only for persons of legal drinking age and only on premises that are either unlicensed or hold a temporary Board-issued license.
 - Authorizes the Board to issue the Class B-resort beer and wine license with or without a catering option.
 - Requires the holder to provide food if also providing alcoholic beverages at a catered event off the licensed premises.
- Permits catering privileges during hours and days authorized under the Class B license.
- Requires the holder, at every catered event where alcoholic beverages are served, to supply service personnel (bartenders and wait staff), ensure they are present at all times, and have at least one person on site certified by an alcohol awareness program.
- Updates the Local Caterer's License and the Catering Option for Class B and B-related license types
 - Allows holders to serve alcoholic beverages at catered events anywhere in the county, limited to persons of legal drinking age and on premises that are either unlicensed or hold a temporary license.
 - Requires holders to supply service staff who will be present throughout the event, at least one of whom must be alcohol awareness certified.
 - Local Caterer's license holders must ensure that food sales account for at least 70% of the total event cost.
- Requires an applicant for a Local Caterer's license to state on the application whether they are a natural-born or naturalized citizen.
 - Non-citizen applicants are required to state that their immigration status complies with federal law and to provide evidence verifying that status.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 827

(Senate Bill 802)

AN ACT concerning

Garrett County – Alcoholic Beverages Act of 2026

FOR the purpose of adding a substitute member to the Board of License Commissioners for Garrett County; establishing a certain special event permit that the Board may issue to a holder of a Class 3 winery license or a Class 4 limited winery license; establishing certain additional requirements for certain holders of certain licenses with catering option; requiring the holder of a certain caterer’s license at a catered event to supply certain service personnel, ensure that certain service personnel are present at all times, and ensure the sale of food represents a specific amount of the total cost of the event; requiring a certain statement on an alcoholic beverages license application about the citizenship status of an applicant; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Garrett County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 21–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 21–202(a) and (b), 21–204, 21–401, 21–602, 21–803, 21–804, 21–804.1,
21–806, 21–902, 21–903, 21–903.1, 21–905, 21–1002.1, 21–1201, and 21–1408
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 21–405.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

21–102.

This title applies only in Garrett County.



21-202.

(a) (1) The Governor shall appoint three members to the Board **AND ONE SUBSTITUTE MEMBER.**

(2) The appointments shall be made:

(i) if there is a resident Senator elected from the county, with the advice and consent of the Senate; or

(ii) if there is no resident Senator elected from the county, with confirmation by the House of Delegates.

(b) (1) Each member of the Board shall be:

(i) a resident and voter of the county; and

(ii) an individual of high character and integrity and of recognized business capacity.

(2) An individual who is receiving compensation from the county may not be appointed to the Board.

(3) (i) Two members of the Board shall be members of the same political party as that of a majority of the members of the Board of County Commissioners.

(ii) One member of the Board shall be a member of a political party other than the one represented by a majority of the Board of County Commissioners.

(4) THE SUBSTITUTE MEMBER:

(I) MAY SERVE ON THE BOARD IN THE ABSENCE OF A QUORUM OF THE REGULAR MEMBERS DUE TO ILLNESS OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST; AND

(II) HAS ALL OF THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF A REGULAR MEMBER WHEN SERVING ON THE BOARD.

21-204.

(a) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Board shall meet at least once each month.

(2) The chair may cancel a meeting for lack of an agenda.



(b) (1) In accordance with § 32.44 of the Garrett County Code of Ordinances, the County Commissioners shall set the salaries of the members of the Board, **INCLUDING THE SUBSTITUTE MEMBER.**

(2) When attending meetings, each member is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(c) The County Commissioners shall provide to the Board:

(1) administrative, clerical, and accounting services as needed; and

(2) (i) legal counsel through the office of the County Attorney; or

(ii) funds for the payment for competent private legal counsel.

21-401.

(a) The following sections of Title 2, Subtitle 2 (“Manufacturer’s Licenses”) of Division I of this article apply in the county without exception or variation:

(1) § 2-201 (“Issuance by Comptroller”);

(2) [§ 2-205 (“Class 3 winery license”);

(3)] § 2-207 (“Class 5 brewery license”);

[(4)] (3) § 2-209 (“Class 7 micro-brewery license”);

[(5)] (4) § 2-211 (“Residency requirement”);

[(6)] (5) § 2-212 (“Additional licenses”);

[(7)] (6) § 2-213 (“Additional fees”);

[(8)] (7) § 2-214 (“Sale or delivery restricted”);

[(9)] (8) § 2-215 (“Beer sale on credit to retail dealer prohibited”);

[(10)] (9) § 2-216 (“Interaction between manufacturing entities and retailers”);

[(11)] (10) § 2-217 (“Distribution of alcoholic beverages – Prohibited practices”); and



[(12)] (11) § 2–218 (“Restrictive agreements between producers and retailers – Prohibited”).

(b) The following sections of Title 2, Subtitle 2 (“Manufacturer’s Licenses”) of Division I of this article apply in the county:

(1) § 2–202 (“Class 1 distillery license”), subject to § 21–403 of this subtitle;

(2) § 2–203 (“Class 9 limited distillery license”), subject to § 21–403.1 of this subtitle;

(3) § 2–204 (“Class 2 rectifying license”), subject to § 21–404 of this subtitle;

(4) **§ 2–205 (“CLASS 3 WINERY LICENSE”), SUBJECT TO § 21–405.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE;**

(5) § 2–206 (“Class 4 limited winery license”), subject to **[(§ 21–405)] §§ 21–405 AND 21–405.1** of this subtitle;

[(5)] (6) § 2–208 (“Class 6 pub–brewery license”), subject to § 21–406 of this subtitle; and

[(6)] (7) § 2–210 (“Class 8 farm brewery license”), subject to § 21–407 of this subtitle.

21–405.1.

(A) THERE IS A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE PERMIT TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS 3 WINERY LICENSE OR A CLASS 4 LIMITED WINERY LICENSE.

(C) THE PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL FOR ON–PREMISES CONSUMPTION BEER, WINE PRODUCED BY THE HOLDER, SPARKLING WINE THAT IS NATURALLY OR ARTIFICIALLY CARBONATED, AND LIQUOR AT A PRIVATE EVENT FOR WHICH THE ENTIRE LICENSED PREMISES HAS BEEN RENTED.

(D) (1) THE PERMIT SHALL BE USED FOR PRIVATE PARTIES THAT ARE SCHEDULED AND RESERVED AT LEAST 7 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE ACTUAL EVENT.

(2) THE PERMIT HOLDER MAY PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES FOR A PRIVATE EVENT:



(I) FOOD AND BEVERAGE SERVICE, INCLUDING THE USE OF A LICENSED KITCHEN AND BAR FACILITY FOR PREPARING AND SERVING MEALS AND BEVERAGES ON THE PREMISES;

(II) SEATING ACCOMMODATIONS, INCLUDING TABLES FOR ON-PREMISES MEAL SERVICE; AND

(III) AN ASSEMBLY AREA THAT COMPLIES WITH THE STATE’S FIRE CODE.

(E) THE PERMIT HOLDER MAY NOT:

(1) HAVE A DIRECT OR INDIRECT PECUNIARY INTEREST IN THE LICENSED CATERER OR OTHER CONTRACTED PARTY; AND

(2) ALLOW THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO ENTER ANY PART OF THE LICENSED PREMISES WHILE THE PRIVATE EVENT IS BEING HELD.

(F) THE PERMIT HOLDER SHALL PURCHASE BEER, SPARKLING WINE THAT IS NATURALLY OR ARTIFICIALLY CARBONATED, OR LIQUOR INTENDED FOR SALE UNDER THE PERMIT FROM A LICENSED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES RETAILER LOCATED IN THE COUNTY.

(G) (1) THE PERMIT HOLDER SHALL KEEP ALL RECEIPTS FROM PURCHASES OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR 1 YEAR AFTER THE DATE OF PURCHASE.

(2) THE RECEIPTS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY THE BOARD.

(H) A PERMIT HOLDER THAT INTENDS TO USE THE PERMIT SHALL NOTIFY THE BOARD AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT IS TO OCCUR ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE BOARD.

(I) THE PERMIT HOLDER SHALL ENSURE THAT:

(1) SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF, ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE PRIVATE EVENT WHEN FOOD OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE AVAILABLE; AND

(2) AT LEAST ONE PERMIT HOLDER OR ONE EMPLOYEE WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN APPROVED ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE IS ON THE PREMISES WHILE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE AVAILABLE.



(J) (1) THE PERMIT HOLDER MAY USE THE PERMIT NOT MORE THAN 32 TIMES IN A CALENDAR YEAR.

(2) A PRIVATE EVENT MAY EXTEND UP TO 7 DAYS IF THE EVENT IS FOR THE SAME CLIENT.

(K) (1) A PRIVATE EVENT MAY BE HELD MONDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS FROM 6 A.M. TO 2 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

(2) SUNDAY SALES ARE ALLOWED FROM 6 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT IN:

(I) COUNTY ELECTION DISTRICTS 11 AND 15; AND

(II) ANY OTHER COUNTY ELECTION DISTRICT OR PRECINCT OF A COUNTY ELECTION DISTRICT IN WHICH THE VOTERS IN A REFERENDUM AUTHORIZED BY LAW APPROVE SUNDAY SALES AS SPECIFIED IN THIS PARAGRAPH.

(L) THE PERMIT HOLDER MAY NOT STORE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES THAT ARE NOT PRODUCED BY THE PERMIT HOLDER ON THE MANUFACTURER'S LICENSED PREMISES IN BETWEEN EVENTS.

(M) (1) THE ANNUAL PERMIT FEE IS \$1,750.

(2) THE BOARD SHALL CHARGE A ONE-TIME ISSUING FEE FOR A NEW PERMIT IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE ANNUAL PERMIT FEE.

21-602.

(a) There is a Class B beer license.

(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer for on- or off-premises consumption:

(1) at a hotel, a motel, or an inn that:

(i) accommodates the public;

(ii) provides services ordinarily found in hotels, motels, or inns;

(iii) is equipped with at least 10 bedrooms for public accommodation;

and

(iv) has a lobby with a registration and mail desk, and seating; or



(2) a restaurant that:

(i) has seating at tables, not including bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and

(ii) can prepare and serve full-course meals for at least 20 individuals at one seating.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license with or without a catering option.

(2) A license holder with a catering option may sell beer for consumption at events that the holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder:

(i) shall provide food if the holder provides beer at a catered event off the licensed premises; and

(ii) may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that are allowed under the license.

(4) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE BEER IS SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(d) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$150 for a 6-day license without a catering option;

(2) \$250 for a 6-day license with a catering option;

(3) \$175 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and



(4) \$275 for a 7–day license with a catering option.

(e) The Board shall charge a one–time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21–803.

(a) There is a Class B beer and wine license.

(b) (1) The Board may issue the license for use in:

(i) a hotel, a motel, or an inn that:

1. provides services ordinarily found in a hotel, a motel, or an inn;
2. is equipped with at least 10 bedrooms for public accommodation; and
3. has a lobby with a registration and mail desk and seating facilities; or

(ii) a restaurant that:

1. has seating at tables, not including seats at bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and
2. can prepare and serve full–course meals for at least 20 individuals at one seating.

(2) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:

- (i) beer and wine for on–premises consumption; and
- (ii) beer for off–premises consumption.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license with a catering option.

(2) In addition to exercising the privileges stated in subsection (b)(2) of this section, a holder of a license with a catering option may sell beer and wine for consumption at events that the license holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**



(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder shall provide food at the catered event.

(4) The license holder may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that are allowed under the license.

(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(d) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$350 for a 6-day license without a catering option;
- (2) \$475 for a 6-day license with a catering option;
- (3) \$410 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and
- (4) \$535 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(e) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-804.

(a) There is a Class BDR (deluxe restaurant) beer and wine license.

(b) The license may be issued to a holder of:

- (1) any Class B alcoholic beverages license issued by the Board; or
- (2) an equivalent license that the local licensing board of a different jurisdiction issues only for use by a restaurant.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license for use by a deluxe restaurant, as defined in the regulations of the Board, that:



- (i) has seating for at least 20 individuals; and
- (ii) has a minimum capital investment of \$25,000 for the restaurant facilities, not including the cost of land or buildings.

(2) If the applicant purchases or leases an existing building, the capital investment attributable to the cost of the land and improvements shall be based on the assessed value of the land and improvements in accordance with the records of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation at the time of purchase.

(3) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:

- (i) beer and wine for on-premises consumption; and
- (ii) beer for off-premises consumption.

(d) (1) The Board may issue the license with a catering option.

(2) In addition to exercising the privileges stated in subsection (c)(3) of this section, a holder of a license with a catering option may sell beer and wine for consumption at events that the license holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder shall provide food at the catered event.

(4) The license holder may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that the Board allows.

(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.



- (e) The annual license fees are:
 - (1) \$500 for a 6–day license without a catering option;
 - (2) \$625 for a 6–day license with a catering option;
 - (3) \$585 for a 7–day license without a catering option; and
 - (4) \$710 for a 7–day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall charge a one–time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21–804.1.

(a) There is a Class BDR–DC (deluxe complex restaurant) beer and wine license.

(b) The license may be issued to a holder of:

- (1) any Class B alcoholic beverages license issued by the Board; or
- (2) an equivalent license that the local licensing board of a different jurisdiction issues only for use by a restaurant.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license for use by a deluxe complex restaurant, as defined in the regulations of the Board, that:

- (i) has seating for at least 20 individuals; and
- (ii) has a minimum capital investment of \$25,000 for the restaurant facilities, not including the cost of land or buildings.

(2) If the applicant purchases or leases an existing building, the capital investment attributable to the cost of the land and improvements shall be based on the assessed value of the land and improvements in accordance with the records of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation at the time of purchase.

(3) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:

- (i) beer and wine for on–premises consumption; and
- (ii) beer for off–premises consumption.

(d) (1) The Board may issue the license with a catering option.



(2) In addition to exercising the privileges stated in subsection (c)(3) of this section, a holder of a license with a catering option may sell beer and wine for consumption at events that the license holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder shall provide food at the catered event.

(4) The license holder may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that the Board allows.

(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(e) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$500 for a 6-day license without a catering option;

(2) \$625 for a 6-day license with a catering option;

(3) \$585 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and

(4) \$710 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall:

(1) charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee; and

(2) adopt regulations to carry out this section.

21-806.

(a) There is a Class D beer and wine license.



(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on- and off-premises consumption.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license with a catering option.

(2) In addition to exercising the privileges stated in subsection (b) of this section, a holder of a license with a catering option may sell beer and wine for consumption at events that the license holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder shall provide food at the catered event.

(4) The license holder may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that the Board allows.

(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(d) The license may not be issued for use by a drugstore.

(e) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$350 for a 6-day license without a catering option;

(2) \$475 for a 6-day license with a catering option;

(3) \$410 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and

(4) \$535 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.



21-902.

(a) There is a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board shall deny an application for a license under this section if the Board determines that the business to be operated under this license will not enhance recreational, business, and economic development in the county.

(c) The Board may issue the license for use by a hotel or motel that:

(1) is an establishment to accommodate the public by providing customary hotel or motel services;

(2) has at least 10 rooms; and

(3) has a lobby with a registration and mail desk and seating facilities.

(d) The Board may issue the license for use by a restaurant that:

(1) has seating at tables, not including seats at bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and

(2) can prepare and serve full-course meals for at least 20 individuals at one seating.

(e) The license authorizes the license holder to sell at a hotel, motel, or restaurant at retail at the place described in the license:

(1) beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption; and

(2) beer for off-premises consumption.

(f) (1) The catering option authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption at events catered by the license holder [in the county] off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(2) A license holder providing alcoholic beverages at a catered event off the licensed premises shall also provide food.

(3) The license holder may exercise catering privileges only during hours and days that are authorized under the Class B license.



(4) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(g) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$1,500 for a 6-day license without the catering option;
- (2) \$2,000 for a 6-day license with the catering option;
- (3) \$1,750 for a 7-day license without the catering option; and
- (4) \$2,250 for a 7-day license with the catering option.

(h) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-903.

(a) There is a Class BDR (deluxe restaurant) beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board may issue the license to a holder of:

- (1) any Class B alcoholic beverages license issued by the Board; or
- (2) an equivalent license that the local licensing board of a different jurisdiction issues only for use by a restaurant.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license for use by a deluxe restaurant as defined by the Board with:

(i) seating at tables, not including seats at bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and

(ii) a capital investment of at least \$250,000 for the restaurant facilities, not including the cost of land or buildings.



(2) If an applicant purchases or leases an existing building, the capital investment attributable to the cost of the land and improvements shall be based on the assessed value of the land and improvements in accordance with the records of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation at the time of purchase or lease.

(3) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:

- (i) beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption; and
- (ii) beer for off-premises consumption.

(d) (1) A license holder of a Class BDR license may acquire a catering option that authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption at events catered by the license holder [in the county] off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(2) A license holder providing alcoholic beverages at a catered event off the licensed premises shall also provide food.

(3) The license holder may exercise catering privileges only during hours and days that are authorized under the Class B license.

(4) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(e) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$2,250 for a 6-day license without a catering option;
- (2) \$2,750 for a 6-day license with a catering option;
- (3) \$2,625 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and



(4) \$3,125 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-903.1.

(a) There is a Class BDR-DC (deluxe complex restaurant) beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board may issue the license to a holder of:

(1) any Class B alcoholic beverages license issued by the Board; or

(2) an equivalent license that the local licensing board of a different jurisdiction issues only for use by a restaurant.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license for use by a deluxe complex restaurant, as defined in the regulations of the Board, with:

(i) seating at tables, not including seats at bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and

(ii) a capital investment of at least \$250,000 for the restaurant facilities, not including the cost of land or buildings.

(2) If an applicant purchases or leases an existing building, the capital investment attributable to the cost of the land and improvements shall be based on the assessed value of the land and improvements in accordance with the records of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation at the time of purchase or lease.

(3) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:

(i) beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption; and

(ii) beer for off-premises consumption.

(d) (1) A license holder of a Class BDR-DC (deluxe complex restaurant) license may acquire a catering option that authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption at events catered by the license holder [in the county] off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**



(2) A license holder providing alcoholic beverages at a catered event off the licensed premises shall also provide food.

(3) The license holder may exercise catering privileges only during hours and days that are authorized under the Class B license.

(4) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(e) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$2,250 for a 6-day license without a catering option;
- (2) \$2,750 for a 6-day license with a catering option;
- (3) \$2,625 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and
- (4) \$3,125 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall:

- (1) charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee; and
- (2) adopt regulations to carry out this section.

21-905.

(a) (1) There is:

- (i) a Class D (75% on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license; and
- (ii) a Class D (75% off-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license.



(2) The Board may not issue a license under this section to a grocery store whose primary business is to sell food at retail to the public for off-premises consumption.

(b) The Board shall issue the license for on-premises consumption for use by an establishment whose total beer, wine, and liquor sales are at least 75% on-premises consumption and not more than 25% off-premises consumption.

(c) The Board shall issue the license for off-sale consumption for use by an establishment whose total beer, wine, and liquor sales are at least 75% off-premises consumption and not more than 25% on-premises consumption.

(d) (1) A holder of the license with a catering option may sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption at events that the holder caters off the licensed premises during the hours and days that the Board allows.

(2) The license holder shall provide food if the license holder provides alcoholic beverages at a catered event off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(e) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$1,500 for a 6-day (on-sale) license without a catering option;

(2) \$2,000 for a 6-day (on-sale) license with a catering option;

(3) \$3,000 for a 6-day (off-sale) license;

(4) \$1,750 for a 7-day (on-sale) license without a catering option;

(5) \$2,250 for a 7-day (on-sale) license with a catering option; and



(6) \$3,500 for a 7-day (off-sale) license.

(f) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-1002.1.

(a) There is a Class B-resort beer and wine license.

(b) The Board may issue the license to a license holder for a complex that has at least two facilities that are:

(1) located on the same contiguous property;

(2) separated by at least 150 feet from the main area of the licensed premises; and

(3) determined by the Board to be hotel, motel, recreational, or restaurant facilities.

(c) The license authorizes the license holder to sell at a hotel, motel, recreational, or restaurant facility at retail at the place described in the license:

(1) beer and wine for on-premises consumption; and

(2) beer for off-premises consumption.

(d) The license holder may sell beer and wine during the hours and days as set out for a Class B beer and wine license under § 21-2003 of this title.

(e) **(1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE WITH OR WITHOUT A CATERING OPTION.**

(2) A LICENSE HOLDER WITH A CATERING OPTION MAY SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR CONSUMPTION AT EVENTS CATERED BY THE LICENSE HOLDER OFF THE LICENSED PREMISES ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.

(3) A LICENSE HOLDER PROVIDING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT A CATERED EVENT OFF THE LICENSED PREMISES SHALL ALSO PROVIDE FOOD.

(4) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY EXERCISE CATERING PRIVILEGES ONLY DURING HOURS AND DAYS THAT ARE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE CLASS B LICENSE.



(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(F) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$700 for a 6-day license for two facilities;
- (2) \$350 for each additional facility for a 6-day license;
- (3) \$820 for a 7-day license for two facilities; and
- (4) \$410 for each additional facility for a 7-day license.

[(f)] (G) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-1201.

(a) There is a local caterer's license.

(b) (1) The Board may issue the license to a person that:

(i) has facilities to prepare and deliver food to the site of a catered event;

(ii) obtains approval of the facilities from the county Department of Health; and

(iii) does not hold any other license that the Board issues.

(2) A license holder is not required to have a banquet hall.

(c) The license authorizes a holder to:



- (1) sell or provide off-sale alcoholic beverages during a catered event; and
- (2) exercise the privileges of the license only during the hours and on the days that are authorized for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license.

(d) A LICENSE HOLDER MAY SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT A CATERED EVENT ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.

(E) The license holder may not:

- (1) hold a catered event that the license holder sponsors; or
- (2) provide only alcoholic beverages at a catered event.

[(e)] (F) The license holder shall:

(1) purchase all alcoholic beverages from a wholesaler or retail dealer licensed to sell alcoholic beverages in the county;

(2) contract for and provide food for consumption at the catered event;

(3) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(4) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT;

(5) ENSURE THAT THE SALE OF FOOD REPRESENTS AT LEAST 70% OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE CATERED EVENT;

[(3)] (6) during the catered event, ensure that at least one individual on the site is certified by an alcohol awareness program under § 4-505 of this article; and

[(4)] (7) at the end of the catered event, return all containers of alcoholic beverages that are not empty to the license holder's principal place of business.

[(f)] (G) (1) The issuing fee that is charged for each new license is \$500.

(2) The annual license fee is \$500.

21-1408.



(a) At the time an application for an alcoholic beverages license is filed, at least one of the applicants shall be a resident of the State.

(b) **AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE IN THE COUNTY SHALL INCLUDE ON THE APPLICATION:**

(1) **A STATEMENT INDICATING WHETHER THE APPLICANT IS A NATURAL-BORN CITIZEN OR A NATURALIZED CITIZEN; OR**

(2) **IF THE APPLICANT IS NOT A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES:**

(I) **A STATEMENT THAT THE APPLICANT’S IMMIGRATION STATUS IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW; AND**

(II) **EVIDENCE TO VERIFY THE IMMIGRATION STATUS OF THE APPLICANT.**

(C) The license remains valid only for as long as at least one of the applicants remains a resident of the State.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 828

(House Bill 1203)

AN ACT concerning

Garrett County – Alcoholic Beverages Act of 2026

FOR the purpose of adding a substitute member to the Board of License Commissioners for Garrett County; establishing a certain special event permit that the Board may issue to a holder of a Class 3 winery license or a Class 4 limited winery license; establishing certain additional requirements for certain holders of certain licenses with catering option; requiring the holder of a certain caterer’s license at a catered event to supply certain service personnel, ensure that certain service personnel are present at all times, and ensure the sale of food represents a specific amount of the total cost of the event; requiring a certain statement on an alcoholic beverages license application about the citizenship status of an applicant; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Garrett County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 21–102
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 21–202(a) and (b), 21–204, 21–401, 21–602, 21–803, 21–804, 21–804.1,
 21–806, 21–902, 21–903, 21–903.1, 21–905, 21–1002.1, 21–1201, and 21–1408
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 21–405.1
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

21–102.

This title applies only in Garrett County.



21-202.

(a) (1) The Governor shall appoint three members to the Board **AND ONE SUBSTITUTE MEMBER.**

(2) The appointments shall be made:

(i) if there is a resident Senator elected from the county, with the advice and consent of the Senate; or

(ii) if there is no resident Senator elected from the county, with confirmation by the House of Delegates.

(b) (1) Each member of the Board shall be:

(i) a resident and voter of the county; and

(ii) an individual of high character and integrity and of recognized business capacity.

(2) An individual who is receiving compensation from the county may not be appointed to the Board.

(3) (i) Two members of the Board shall be members of the same political party as that of a majority of the members of the Board of County Commissioners.

(ii) One member of the Board shall be a member of a political party other than the one represented by a majority of the Board of County Commissioners.

(4) THE SUBSTITUTE MEMBER:

(I) MAY SERVE ON THE BOARD IN THE ABSENCE OF A QUORUM OF THE REGULAR MEMBERS DUE TO ILLNESS OR CONFLICT OF INTEREST; AND

(II) HAS ALL OF THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF A REGULAR MEMBER WHEN SERVING ON THE BOARD.

21-204.

(a) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the Board shall meet at least once each month.

(2) The chair may cancel a meeting for lack of an agenda.



(b) (1) In accordance with § 32.44 of the Garrett County Code of Ordinances, the County Commissioners shall set the salaries of the members of the Board, **INCLUDING THE SUBSTITUTE MEMBER.**

(2) When attending meetings, each member is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

(c) The County Commissioners shall provide to the Board:

- (1) administrative, clerical, and accounting services as needed; and
- (2) (i) legal counsel through the office of the County Attorney; or
- (ii) funds for the payment for competent private legal counsel.

21-401.

(a) The following sections of Title 2, Subtitle 2 (“Manufacturer’s Licenses”) of Division I of this article apply in the county without exception or variation:

- (1) § 2-201 (“Issuance by Comptroller”);
- (2) [§ 2-205 (“Class 3 winery license”);
- (3)] § 2-207 (“Class 5 brewery license”);
- [(4)] **(3)** § 2-209 (“Class 7 micro-brewery license”);
- [(5)] **(4)** § 2-211 (“Residency requirement”);
- [(6)] **(5)** § 2-212 (“Additional licenses”);
- [(7)] **(6)** § 2-213 (“Additional fees”);
- [(8)] **(7)** § 2-214 (“Sale or delivery restricted”);
- [(9)] **(8)** § 2-215 (“Beer sale on credit to retail dealer prohibited”);
- [(10)] **(9)** § 2-216 (“Interaction between manufacturing entities and retailers”);
- [(11)] **(10)** § 2-217 (“Distribution of alcoholic beverages – Prohibited practices”); and



[(12)] (11) § 2–218 (“Restrictive agreements between producers and retailers – Prohibited”).

(b) The following sections of Title 2, Subtitle 2 (“Manufacturer’s Licenses”) of Division I of this article apply in the county:

(1) § 2–202 (“Class 1 distillery license”), subject to § 21–403 of this subtitle;

(2) § 2–203 (“Class 9 limited distillery license”), subject to § 21–403.1 of this subtitle;

(3) § 2–204 (“Class 2 rectifying license”), subject to § 21–404 of this subtitle;

(4) **§ 2–205 (“CLASS 3 WINERY LICENSE”), SUBJECT TO § 21–405.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE;**

(5) § 2–206 (“Class 4 limited winery license”), subject to [§ 21–405] §§ 21–405 AND 21–405.1 of this subtitle;

[(5)] (6) § 2–208 (“Class 6 pub–brewery license”), subject to § 21–406 of this subtitle; and

[(6)] (7) § 2–210 (“Class 8 farm brewery license”), subject to § 21–407 of this subtitle.

21–405.1.

(A) THERE IS A SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE PERMIT TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS 3 WINERY LICENSE OR A CLASS 4 LIMITED WINERY LICENSE.

(C) THE PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL FOR ON–PREMISES CONSUMPTION BEER, WINE PRODUCED BY THE HOLDER, SPARKLING WINE THAT IS NATURALLY OR ARTIFICIALLY CARBONATED, AND LIQUOR AT A PRIVATE EVENT FOR WHICH THE ENTIRE LICENSED PREMISES HAS BEEN RENTED.

(D) (1) THE PERMIT SHALL BE USED FOR PRIVATE PARTIES THAT ARE SCHEDULED AND RESERVED AT LEAST 7 DAYS IN ADVANCE OF THE ACTUAL EVENT.

(2) THE PERMIT HOLDER MAY PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING SERVICES FOR A PRIVATE EVENT:



(I) FOOD AND BEVERAGE SERVICE, INCLUDING THE USE OF A LICENSED KITCHEN AND BAR FACILITY FOR PREPARING AND SERVING MEALS AND BEVERAGES ON THE PREMISES;

(II) SEATING ACCOMMODATIONS, INCLUDING TABLES FOR ON-PREMISES MEAL SERVICE; AND

(III) AN ASSEMBLY AREA THAT COMPLIES WITH THE STATE’S FIRE CODE.

(E) THE PERMIT HOLDER MAY NOT:

(1) HAVE A DIRECT OR INDIRECT PECUNIARY INTEREST IN THE LICENSED CATERER OR OTHER CONTRACTED PARTY; AND

(2) ALLOW THE GENERAL PUBLIC TO ENTER ANY PART OF THE LICENSED PREMISES WHILE THE PRIVATE EVENT IS BEING HELD.

(F) THE PERMIT HOLDER SHALL PURCHASE BEER, SPARKLING WINE THAT IS NATURALLY OR ARTIFICIALLY CARBONATED, OR LIQUOR INTENDED FOR SALE UNDER THE PERMIT FROM A LICENSED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES RETAILER LOCATED IN THE COUNTY.

(G) (1) THE PERMIT HOLDER SHALL KEEP ALL RECEIPTS FROM PURCHASES OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR 1 YEAR AFTER THE DATE OF PURCHASE.

(2) THE RECEIPTS SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION BY THE BOARD.

(H) A PERMIT HOLDER THAT INTENDS TO USE THE PERMIT SHALL NOTIFY THE BOARD AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE THE EVENT IS TO OCCUR ON A FORM PROVIDED BY THE BOARD.

(I) THE PERMIT HOLDER SHALL ENSURE THAT:

(1) SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF, ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE PRIVATE EVENT WHEN FOOD OR ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE AVAILABLE; AND

(2) AT LEAST ONE PERMIT HOLDER OR ONE EMPLOYEE WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN APPROVED ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE IS ON THE PREMISES WHILE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE AVAILABLE.



(J) (1) THE PERMIT HOLDER MAY USE THE PERMIT NOT MORE THAN 32 TIMES IN A CALENDAR YEAR.

(2) A PRIVATE EVENT MAY EXTEND UP TO 7 DAYS IF THE EVENT IS FOR THE SAME CLIENT.

(K) (1) A PRIVATE EVENT MAY BE HELD MONDAYS THROUGH SATURDAYS FROM 6 A.M. TO 2 A.M. THE FOLLOWING DAY.

(2) SUNDAY SALES ARE ALLOWED FROM 6 A.M. TO MIDNIGHT IN:

(I) COUNTY ELECTION DISTRICTS 11 AND 15; AND

(II) ANY OTHER COUNTY ELECTION DISTRICT OR PRECINCT OF A COUNTY ELECTION DISTRICT IN WHICH THE VOTERS IN A REFERENDUM AUTHORIZED BY LAW APPROVE SUNDAY SALES AS SPECIFIED IN THIS PARAGRAPH.

(L) THE PERMIT HOLDER MAY NOT STORE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES THAT ARE NOT PRODUCED BY THE PERMIT HOLDER ON THE MANUFACTURER’S LICENSED PREMISES IN BETWEEN EVENTS.

(M) (1) THE ANNUAL PERMIT FEE IS \$1,750.

(2) THE BOARD SHALL CHARGE A ONE-TIME ISSUING FEE FOR A NEW PERMIT IN AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE ANNUAL PERMIT FEE.

21-602.

(a) There is a Class B beer license.

(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer for on- or off-premises consumption:

(1) at a hotel, a motel, or an inn that:

(i) accommodates the public;

(ii) provides services ordinarily found in hotels, motels, or inns;

(iii) is equipped with at least 10 bedrooms for public accommodation;

and

(iv) has a lobby with a registration and mail desk, and seating; or



(2) a restaurant that:

(i) has seating at tables, not including bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and

(ii) can prepare and serve full-course meals for at least 20 individuals at one seating.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license with or without a catering option.

(2) A license holder with a catering option may sell beer for consumption at events that the holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder:

(i) shall provide food if the holder provides beer at a catered event off the licensed premises; and

(ii) may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that are allowed under the license.

(4) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE BEER IS SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(d) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$150 for a 6-day license without a catering option;

(2) \$250 for a 6-day license with a catering option;

(3) \$175 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and



(4) \$275 for a 7–day license with a catering option.

(e) The Board shall charge a one–time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21–803.

(a) There is a Class B beer and wine license.

(b) (1) The Board may issue the license for use in:

(i) a hotel, a motel, or an inn that:

- 1. provides services ordinarily found in a hotel, a motel, or an inn;
- 2. is equipped with at least 10 bedrooms for public accommodation; and
- 3. has a lobby with a registration and mail desk and seating facilities; or

(ii) a restaurant that:

- 1. has seating at tables, not including seats at bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and
- 2. can prepare and serve full–course meals for at least 20 individuals at one seating.

(2) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:

- (i) beer and wine for on–premises consumption; and
- (ii) beer for off–premises consumption.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license with a catering option.

(2) In addition to exercising the privileges stated in subsection (b)(2) of this section, a holder of a license with a catering option may sell beer and wine for consumption at events that the license holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**



(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder shall provide food at the catered event.

(4) The license holder may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that are allowed under the license.

(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(d) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$350 for a 6-day license without a catering option;
- (2) \$475 for a 6-day license with a catering option;
- (3) \$410 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and
- (4) \$535 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(e) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-804.

(a) There is a Class BDR (deluxe restaurant) beer and wine license.

(b) The license may be issued to a holder of:

- (1) any Class B alcoholic beverages license issued by the Board; or
- (2) an equivalent license that the local licensing board of a different jurisdiction issues only for use by a restaurant.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license for use by a deluxe restaurant, as defined in the regulations of the Board, that:



(i) has seating for at least 20 individuals; and

(ii) has a minimum capital investment of \$25,000 for the restaurant facilities, not including the cost of land or buildings.

(2) If the applicant purchases or leases an existing building, the capital investment attributable to the cost of the land and improvements shall be based on the assessed value of the land and improvements in accordance with the records of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation at the time of purchase.

(3) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:

(i) beer and wine for on-premises consumption; and

(ii) beer for off-premises consumption.

(d) (1) The Board may issue the license with a catering option.

(2) In addition to exercising the privileges stated in subsection (c)(3) of this section, a holder of a license with a catering option may sell beer and wine for consumption at events that the license holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder shall provide food at the catered event.

(4) The license holder may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that the Board allows.

(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.



- (e) The annual license fees are:
- (1) \$500 for a 6–day license without a catering option;
 - (2) \$625 for a 6–day license with a catering option;
 - (3) \$585 for a 7–day license without a catering option; and
 - (4) \$710 for a 7–day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall charge a one–time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21–804.1.

- (a) There is a Class BDR–DC (deluxe complex restaurant) beer and wine license.
- (b) The license may be issued to a holder of:
- (1) any Class B alcoholic beverages license issued by the Board; or
 - (2) an equivalent license that the local licensing board of a different jurisdiction issues only for use by a restaurant.
- (c) (1) The Board may issue the license for use by a deluxe complex restaurant, as defined in the regulations of the Board, that:
- (i) has seating for at least 20 individuals; and
 - (ii) has a minimum capital investment of \$25,000 for the restaurant facilities, not including the cost of land or buildings.
- (2) If the applicant purchases or leases an existing building, the capital investment attributable to the cost of the land and improvements shall be based on the assessed value of the land and improvements in accordance with the records of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation at the time of purchase.
- (3) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:
- (i) beer and wine for on–premises consumption; and
 - (ii) beer for off–premises consumption.
- (d) (1) The Board may issue the license with a catering option.



(2) In addition to exercising the privileges stated in subsection (c)(3) of this section, a holder of a license with a catering option may sell beer and wine for consumption at events that the license holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder shall provide food at the catered event.

(4) The license holder may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that the Board allows.

(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(e) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$500 for a 6-day license without a catering option;
- (2) \$625 for a 6-day license with a catering option;
- (3) \$585 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and
- (4) \$710 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall:

- (1) charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee; and
- (2) adopt regulations to carry out this section.

21-806.

(a) There is a Class D beer and wine license.



(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on- and off-premises consumption.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license with a catering option.

(2) In addition to exercising the privileges stated in subsection (b) of this section, a holder of a license with a catering option may sell beer and wine for consumption at events that the license holder caters off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) To exercise the catering option, the license holder shall provide food at the catered event.

(4) The license holder may exercise the catering option only during the hours and days that the Board allows.

(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(d) The license may not be issued for use by a drugstore.

(e) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$350 for a 6-day license without a catering option;

(2) \$475 for a 6-day license with a catering option;

(3) \$410 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and

(4) \$535 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.



21-902.

(a) There is a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board shall deny an application for a license under this section if the Board determines that the business to be operated under this license will not enhance recreational, business, and economic development in the county.

(c) The Board may issue the license for use by a hotel or motel that:

(1) is an establishment to accommodate the public by providing customary hotel or motel services;

(2) has at least 10 rooms; and

(3) has a lobby with a registration and mail desk and seating facilities.

(d) The Board may issue the license for use by a restaurant that:

(1) has seating at tables, not including seats at bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and

(2) can prepare and serve full-course meals for at least 20 individuals at one seating.

(e) The license authorizes the license holder to sell at a hotel, motel, or restaurant at retail at the place described in the license:

(1) beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption; and

(2) beer for off-premises consumption.

(f) (1) The catering option authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption at events catered by the license holder [in the county] off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(2) A license holder providing alcoholic beverages at a catered event off the licensed premises shall also provide food.

(3) The license holder may exercise catering privileges only during hours and days that are authorized under the Class B license.



(4) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(g) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$1,500 for a 6-day license without the catering option;
- (2) \$2,000 for a 6-day license with the catering option;
- (3) \$1,750 for a 7-day license without the catering option; and
- (4) \$2,250 for a 7-day license with the catering option.

(h) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-903.

(a) There is a Class BDR (deluxe restaurant) beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board may issue the license to a holder of:

- (1) any Class B alcoholic beverages license issued by the Board; or
- (2) an equivalent license that the local licensing board of a different jurisdiction issues only for use by a restaurant.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license for use by a deluxe restaurant as defined by the Board with:

- (i) seating at tables, not including seats at bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and
- (ii) a capital investment of at least \$250,000 for the restaurant facilities, not including the cost of land or buildings.



(2) If an applicant purchases or leases an existing building, the capital investment attributable to the cost of the land and improvements shall be based on the assessed value of the land and improvements in accordance with the records of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation at the time of purchase or lease.

(3) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:

- (i) beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption; and
- (ii) beer for off-premises consumption.

(d) (1) A license holder of a Class BDR license may acquire a catering option that authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption at events catered by the license holder [in the county] off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(2) A license holder providing alcoholic beverages at a catered event off the licensed premises shall also provide food.

(3) The license holder may exercise catering privileges only during hours and days that are authorized under the Class B license.

(4) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(e) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$2,250 for a 6-day license without a catering option;
- (2) \$2,750 for a 6-day license with a catering option;
- (3) \$2,625 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and



(4) \$3,125 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-903.1.

(a) There is a Class BDR-DC (deluxe complex restaurant) beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board may issue the license to a holder of:

(1) any Class B alcoholic beverages license issued by the Board; or

(2) an equivalent license that the local licensing board of a different jurisdiction issues only for use by a restaurant.

(c) (1) The Board may issue the license for use by a deluxe complex restaurant, as defined in the regulations of the Board, with:

(i) seating at tables, not including seats at bars or counters, for at least 20 individuals; and

(ii) a capital investment of at least \$250,000 for the restaurant facilities, not including the cost of land or buildings.

(2) If an applicant purchases or leases an existing building, the capital investment attributable to the cost of the land and improvements shall be based on the assessed value of the land and improvements in accordance with the records of the State Department of Assessments and Taxation at the time of purchase or lease.

(3) The license authorizes the license holder to sell, at retail, at the place described in the license:

(i) beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption; and

(ii) beer for off-premises consumption.

(d) (1) A license holder of a Class BDR-DC (deluxe complex restaurant) license may acquire a catering option that authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption at events catered by the license holder [in the county] off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**



(2) A license holder providing alcoholic beverages at a catered event off the licensed premises shall also provide food.

(3) The license holder may exercise catering privileges only during hours and days that are authorized under the Class B license.

(4) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(i) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(ii) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(iii) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(e) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$2,250 for a 6-day license without a catering option;
- (2) \$2,750 for a 6-day license with a catering option;
- (3) \$2,625 for a 7-day license without a catering option; and
- (4) \$3,125 for a 7-day license with a catering option.

(f) The Board shall:

- (1) charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee; and
- (2) adopt regulations to carry out this section.

21-905.

(a) (1) There is:

- (i) a Class D (75% on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license; and
- (ii) a Class D (75% off-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license.



(2) The Board may not issue a license under this section to a grocery store whose primary business is to sell food at retail to the public for off-premises consumption.

(b) The Board shall issue the license for on-premises consumption for use by an establishment whose total beer, wine, and liquor sales are at least 75% on-premises consumption and not more than 25% off-premises consumption.

(c) The Board shall issue the license for off-sale consumption for use by an establishment whose total beer, wine, and liquor sales are at least 75% off-premises consumption and not more than 25% on-premises consumption.

(d) (1) A holder of the license with a catering option may sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption at events that the holder caters off the licensed premises during the hours and days that the Board allows.

(2) The license holder shall provide food if the license holder provides alcoholic beverages at a catered event off the licensed premises **ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.**

(3) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(e) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$1,500 for a 6-day (on-sale) license without a catering option;

(2) \$2,000 for a 6-day (on-sale) license with a catering option;

(3) \$3,000 for a 6-day (off-sale) license;

(4) \$1,750 for a 7-day (on-sale) license without a catering option;

(5) \$2,250 for a 7-day (on-sale) license with a catering option; and



(6) \$3,500 for a 7-day (off-sale) license.

(f) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-1002.1.

(a) There is a Class B-resort beer and wine license.

(b) The Board may issue the license to a license holder for a complex that has at least two facilities that are:

(1) located on the same contiguous property;

(2) separated by at least 150 feet from the main area of the licensed premises; and

(3) determined by the Board to be hotel, motel, recreational, or restaurant facilities.

(c) The license authorizes the license holder to sell at a hotel, motel, recreational, or restaurant facility at retail at the place described in the license:

(1) beer and wine for on-premises consumption; and

(2) beer for off-premises consumption.

(d) The license holder may sell beer and wine during the hours and days as set out for a Class B beer and wine license under § 21-2003 of this title.

(e) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE WITH OR WITHOUT A CATERING OPTION.

(2) A LICENSE HOLDER WITH A CATERING OPTION MAY SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR CONSUMPTION AT EVENTS CATERED BY THE LICENSE HOLDER OFF THE LICENSED PREMISES ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.

(3) A LICENSE HOLDER PROVIDING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT A CATERED EVENT OFF THE LICENSED PREMISES SHALL ALSO PROVIDE FOOD.

(4) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY EXERCISE CATERING PRIVILEGES ONLY DURING HOURS AND DAYS THAT ARE AUTHORIZED UNDER THE CLASS B LICENSE.



(5) AT EACH CATERED EVENT WHERE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE SERVED, THE HOLDER OF THE CATERING OPTION SHALL:

(I) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(II) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT; AND

(III) HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSON AT THE CATERED EVENT WHO IS CERTIFIED BY AN ALCOHOL AWARENESS PROGRAM UNDER § 4-505 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(F) The annual license fees are:

- (1) \$700 for a 6-day license for two facilities;
- (2) \$350 for each additional facility for a 6-day license;
- (3) \$820 for a 7-day license for two facilities; and
- (4) \$410 for each additional facility for a 7-day license.

[(f)] (G) The Board shall charge a one-time issuing fee for a new license in an amount equal to the annual license fee.

21-1201.

(a) There is a local caterer's license.

(b) (1) The Board may issue the license to a person that:

(i) has facilities to prepare and deliver food to the site of a catered event;

(ii) obtains approval of the facilities from the county Department of Health; and

(iii) does not hold any other license that the Board issues.

(2) A license holder is not required to have a banquet hall.

(c) The license authorizes a holder to:



(1) sell or provide off-sale alcoholic beverages during a catered event; and

(2) exercise the privileges of the license only during the hours and on the days that are authorized for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license.

(d) A LICENSE HOLDER MAY SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT A CATERED EVENT ANYWHERE IN THE COUNTY TO A PERSON OF LEGAL DRINKING AGE ON PREMISES THAT EITHER DO NOT HAVE A LICENSE OR HAVE A TEMPORARY LICENSE ISSUED BY THE BOARD.

(E) The license holder may not:

(1) hold a catered event that the license holder sponsors; or

(2) provide only alcoholic beverages at a catered event.

[(e)] (F) The license holder shall:

(1) purchase all alcoholic beverages from a wholesaler or retail dealer licensed to sell alcoholic beverages in the county;

(2) contract for and provide food for consumption at the catered event;

(3) SUPPLY SERVICE PERSONNEL, INCLUDING BARTENDERS AND WAIT STAFF;

(4) ENSURE THAT THE SERVICE PERSONNEL ARE PRESENT AT ALL TIMES DURING THE CATERED EVENT;

(5) ENSURE THAT THE SALE OF FOOD REPRESENTS AT LEAST 70% OF THE TOTAL COST OF THE CATERED EVENT;

[(3)] (6) during the catered event, ensure that at least one individual on the site is certified by an alcohol awareness program under § 4-505 of this article; and

[(4)] (7) at the end of the catered event, return all containers of alcoholic beverages that are not empty to the license holder’s principal place of business.

[(f)] (G) (1) The issuing fee that is charged for each new license is \$500.

(2) The annual license fee is \$500.

21-1408.



(a) At the time an application for an alcoholic beverages license is filed, at least one of the applicants shall be a resident of the State.

(b) **AN APPLICANT FOR A LICENSE IN THE COUNTY SHALL INCLUDE ON THE APPLICATION:**

(1) A STATEMENT INDICATING WHETHER THE APPLICANT IS A NATURAL-BORN CITIZEN OR A NATURALIZED CITIZEN; OR

(2) IF THE APPLICANT IS NOT A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES:

(I) A STATEMENT THAT THE APPLICANT'S IMMIGRATION STATUS IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH FEDERAL LAW; AND

(II) EVIDENCE TO VERIFY THE IMMIGRATION STATUS OF THE APPLICANT.

(C) The license remains valid only for as long as at least one of the applicants remains a resident of the State.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Class HC (Health Club)

SB0684

HB0991



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 22-1004(d)



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Extends the closing hour for a Class HC (health club) B&W licensee from 9pm to 11pm.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 841

(Senate Bill 684)

AN ACT concerning

Harford County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class HC (Health Club) License – Hours of Sale

FOR the purpose of altering the hours during which a holder of a Class HC (health club) beer and wine license in Harford County may sell alcoholic beverages; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Harford County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 22–102 and 22–1004(a) through (c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 22–1004(d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

22–102.

This title applies only in Harford County.

22–1004.

(a) There is:

- (1) a 6–day Class HC (health club) beer and wine license; and
- (2) a 7–day Class HC (health club) beer and wine license.

(b) The Board may issue the 6–day or the 7–day license to a person who:

- (1) sells health club services, as defined in § 14–12B–01 of the Commercial

Law Article;



- (2) has a health club facility that offers:
 - (i) an indoor or outdoor swimming pool; or
 - (ii) pickleball courts;
- (3) has at least 150 members who pay dues; and
- (4) owns or leases real property in the county for use as a for-profit or nonprofit health club facility.

(c) (1) The 6-day license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine from Monday through Saturday in a bar area at a swimming pool or an indoor lounge or both.

(2) The 7-day license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine from Monday through Sunday in a bar area at a swimming pool or an indoor lounge or both.

(d) The 6-day license holder and the 7-day license holder may sell beer and wine for on-premises consumption from 1 p.m. to [9 p.m.] **11 P.M.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 842

(House Bill 991)

AN ACT concerning

Harford County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class HC (Health Club) License – Hours of Sale

FOR the purpose of altering the hours during which a holder of a Class HC (health club) beer and wine license in Harford County may sell alcoholic beverages; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Harford County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 22–102 and 22–1004(a) through (c)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 22–1004(d)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

22–102.

This title applies only in Harford County.

22–1004.

(a) There is:

- (1) a 6–day Class HC (health club) beer and wine license; and
- (2) a 7–day Class HC (health club) beer and wine license.

(b) The Board may issue the 6–day or the 7–day license to a person who:

- (1) sells health club services, as defined in § 14–12B–01 of the Commercial

Law Article;



- (2) has a health club facility that offers:
 - (i) an indoor or outdoor swimming pool; or
 - (ii) pickleball courts;
- (3) has at least 150 members who pay dues; and
- (4) owns or leases real property in the county for use as a for-profit or nonprofit health club facility.

(c) (1) The 6-day license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine from Monday through Saturday in a bar area at a swimming pool or an indoor lounge or both.

(2) The 7-day license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine from Monday through Sunday in a bar area at a swimming pool or an indoor lounge or both.

(d) The 6-day license holder and the 7-day license holder may sell beer and wine for on-premises consumption from 1 p.m. to [9 p.m.] **11 P.M.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Gift Basket Permit Ho. Co. 2-26

HB0456

STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 23-1003.1 and 23-1602

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

SUMMARY

- Establishes a new gift basket permit allowing holders to sell and deliver gift baskets containing beer, wine, or liquor.
- Limits the permit to businesses whose primary operation is selling and delivering flowers, and whose business includes gift baskets of flowers, food, or other items.
- Bars permit holders from holding any other alcoholic beverages license or permit.
- Prohibits issuing the permit for use with chain stores, supermarkets, or discount houses.
- Allows holders to sell and deliver gift baskets to legal-age consumers in the county, capped at 72 ounces of beer, 2.25 liters of wine, or 2.25 liters of liquor.
- Requires holders to maintain records and submit reports to the Board.
- Requires the permit holder or an employee to make deliveries and to verify the recipient is at least 21 by checking proof of age
- Mandates that anyone delivering a gift basket be at least 21 years old.
- Caps annual alcoholic beverage sales at 10% of the holder’s annual gross sales.
- Requires that all alcohol in gift baskets be purchased from a retail license holder.
- Directs the Board to adopt regulations implementing the permit.
- Sets the permit fee at \$100.
- Clarifies that the existing limits on issuing licenses in proximity to a public school do not apply to the gift basket permit.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 817

(House Bill 456)

AN ACT concerning

Howard County – Alcoholic Beverages – Gift Basket Permit

Ho. Co. 2–26

FOR the purpose of establishing, in Howard County, a gift basket permit that authorizes a permit holder to sell and deliver gift baskets containing beer, wine, or liquor to certain individuals under certain circumstances; providing that certain distance requirements do not apply to the issuance of the permit; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Howard County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 23–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 23–1003.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 23–1602
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

23–102.

This title applies only in Howard County.

23–1003.1.

(A) THERE IS A GIFT BASKET PERMIT.



- (B) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE PERMIT TO A PERSON:**
- (I) WHOSE PRIMARY BUSINESS IS THE SALE AND DELIVERY OF FLOWERS;**
- (II) WHOSE BUSINESS INCLUDES THE SALE AND DELIVERY OF GIFT BASKETS OF FLOWERS, FOOD, OR OTHER ITEMS; AND**
- (III) WHO DOES NOT HOLD ANY OTHER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES LICENSE OR PERMIT UNDER THIS ARTICLE.**
- (2) THE BOARD MAY NOT ISSUE THE PERMIT FOR USE IN CONJUNCTION WITH OR ON THE PREMISES OF A CHAIN STORE, SUPERMARKET, OR DISCOUNT HOUSE.**
- (C) A HOLDER OF THE PERMIT:**
- (1) MAY SELL AND DELIVER, TO CONSUMERS OF A LEGAL DRINKING AGE LOCATED IN THE COUNTY, GIFT BASKETS CONTAINING:**
- (I) NOT MORE THAN 72 OUNCES OF BEER;**
- (II) NOT MORE THAN 2.25 LITERS OF WINE; OR**
- (III) NOT MORE THAN 2.25 LITERS OF LIQUOR; AND**
- (2) SHALL MAINTAIN RECORDS AND SUBMIT REPORTS AS REQUIRED BY THE BOARD.**
- (D) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE PERMIT HOLDER OR AN EMPLOYEE OF THE PERMIT HOLDER SHALL:**
- (I) DELIVER THE GIFT BASKET CONTAINING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; AND**
- (II) REQUIRE THE PERSON RECEIVING A DELIVERY OF A GIFT BASKET CONTAINING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES TO DISPLAY PROOF THAT THE PERSON IS AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD.**
- (2) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO DELIVERS A GIFT BASKET CONTAINING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SHALL BE AT LEAST 21 YEARS OLD.**



(E) THE HOLDER’S ANNUAL SALES FROM ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES MAY NOT EXCEED 10% OF THE HOLDER’S ANNUAL GROSS SALES.

(F) THE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES CONTAINED IN A GIFT BASKET SHALL BE PURCHASED FROM A RETAIL LICENSE HOLDER.

(G) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION.

(H) THE FEE FOR A GIFT BASKET PERMIT IS \$100.

23–1602.

(a) (1) Subject to subsection (b) of this section, the Board may not issue:

(i) a Class B license for a restaurant that is within 400 feet of the nearest point of a public school building; or

(ii) any other license for an establishment that is within 500 feet of the nearest point of a public school building.

(2) A decision of the County Board of Education to locate a public school building within 500 feet of the premises of a license holder may not be the basis to revoke or deny the renewal or transfer of the license.

(b) For a license issued on or before June 30, 1971, the Board may renew the license or approve the transfer of the license to a new license holder for the same establishment and type of license.

(C) THE PROHIBITION AGAINST ISSUING A LICENSE IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE ISSUANCE OF A GIFT BASKET PERMIT.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Multiple Licenses Prohibition - Exceptions PG 313-26

HB0406



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 26-1505



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Adds holders of Class B on-sale beer and wine and Class B on-sale beer, wine, and liquor licenses to be exempt from the prohibition on holding multiple alcoholic beverage licenses.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 823

(House Bill 406)

AN ACT concerning

Prince George’s County – Alcoholic Beverages – Multiple Licenses Prohibition – Exceptions

PG 313–26

FOR the purpose of adding Class B (on–sale) beer and wine and Class B (on–sale) beer, wine, and liquor licenses to the list of alcoholic beverages licenses for which the prohibition against issuing multiple licenses for the same person or premises in Prince George’s County does not apply; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Prince George’s County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 26–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 26–1505
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

26–102.

This title applies only in Prince George’s County.

26–1505.

(a) Unless otherwise authorized by this article, a person may not have an interest in more than one license issued by the Board, regardless of whether the person acts on the person’s own behalf or on behalf of another person.

(b) The prohibition against issuing multiple licenses for the same premises or to an individual for the use of that individual, a partnership, a corporation, an unincorporated association, or a limited liability company does not apply if:



(1) each premises is a bowling establishment that has at least 30 lanes with automatic pinsetters; and

(2) the licenses were issued before June 1, 1982.

(c) The prohibition against issuing multiple licenses for the same person or premises does not apply to a Class B–ECF/DS license, **CLASS B (ON–SALE) BEER AND WINE LICENSE, OR CLASS B (ON–SALE) BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Class B-SEC (Small Event Center) License PG 312-26

HB0443**STATUTES AFFECTED:** Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 26-1013.1**EFFECTIVE DATE:** July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Establishes a Class B-SEC (Small Event Center) beer, wine, and liquor license.
 - Allows the Board to issue the license to venues with kitchen and dining facilities accommodating between 75 and 110 individuals.
 - Authorizes the holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor for on-premises consumption to individuals attending an event at the licensed small event center.
 - Restricts the Board from issuing more than:
 - 24 licenses in a license year, or
 - 3 licenses to apply in each state legislative district in the county at one time.
- Sets small event center requirements:
 - For a venue approved or under construction, requires a minimum capital investment of \$350,000 in dining facilities and kitchen equipment.
 - For a venue open to the public for events, requires a minimum appraised value of \$350,000 for dining facilities and kitchen equipment (excluding land, buildings, or leasing).
 - Requires food to be available during event operating hours.
- Permits the holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor during the hours and days set for a Class B license, subject to county use and occupancy laws for hours of operation.
- Sets the annual license fee at \$3,500.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 838

(House Bill 443)

AN ACT concerning

Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class B–SEC (Small Event Center) License

PG 312–26

FOR the purpose of establishing a Class B–SEC (small event center) beer, wine, and liquor license in Prince George's County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Prince George's County to issue the license for use in certain small event centers in the county; limiting the number of Class B–SEC licenses that the Board may issue per license year and per State legislative district; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Prince George's County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 26–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 26–1013.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

26–102.

This title applies only in Prince George's County.

26–1013.1.

(A) IN THIS SECTION, “SMALL EVENT CENTER” MEANS A VENUE THAT OPERATES ON A PER–EVENT BASIS OR ON A LIMITED SCHEDULE AND DOES NOT MAINTAIN STANDARD DAILY HOURS OF OPERATION.



(B) THERE IS A CLASS B-SEC (SMALL EVENT CENTER) BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(C) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE FOR USE IN A SMALL EVENT CENTER THAT HAS KITCHEN AND DINING FACILITIES TO ACCOMMODATE BETWEEN 75 AND ~~125~~ 110 INDIVIDUALS, INCLUSIVE.

(D) THE LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE LICENSE HOLDER TO SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR FOR ON-PREMISES CONSUMPTION TO INDIVIDUALS ATTENDING AN EVENT AT THE SMALL EVENT CENTER DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE.

(E) THE BOARD MAY NOT ISSUE MORE THAN:

(1) 24 LICENSES IN A LICENSE YEAR; OR

(2) 3 LICENSES TO APPLY IN EACH STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY AT ANY ONE TIME.

(F) THE SMALL EVENT CENTER SHALL HAVE:

(1) FOR A SMALL EVENT CENTER APPROVED FOR OR UNDER CONSTRUCTION, A MINIMUM CAPITAL INVESTMENT, NOT INCLUDING THE COST OF LAND, BUILDINGS, OR LEASING, OF ~~\$500,000~~ \$350,000 FOR SMALL EVENT CENTER DINING FACILITIES AND KITCHEN EQUIPMENT; AND

(2) FOR A SMALL EVENT CENTER THAT IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR EVENTS, A MINIMUM APPRAISED VALUE, NOT INCLUDING THE COST OF LAND, BUILDINGS, OR LEASING, OF \$350,000 FOR SMALL EVENT CENTER DINING FACILITIES AND KITCHEN EQUIPMENT; AND

(3) FOOD AVAILABLE DURING THE HOURS OF OPERATION FOR AN EVENT.

(G) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR DURING THE HOURS AND DAYS AS SET OUT FOR A CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE UNDER § 26-2004 OF THIS TITLE, SUBJECT TO COUNTY USE AND OCCUPANCY LAWS FOR HOURS OF OPERATION.

(H) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEE IS \$3,500.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.



Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Wine Festival Licenses PG 316-26

HB0558



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 26-1304



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

SUMMARY

- Expands the Prince George's County Wine Festival Permit from a single annual event, into a permit that supports multiple festival events.
- Eliminates the 24th Legislative District exclusion, which now allows wine festivals to operate anywhere in the county.
- Allows the Board to designate multiple weekend blocks instead of just one annual weekend as long as it does not conflict with neighboring county festivals.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 824

(House Bill 558)

AN ACT concerning

Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Wine Festival Licenses

PG 316–26

FOR the purpose of repealing the restriction on the number of wine festival licenses that the Board of License Commissioners for Prince George's County may issue annually; repealing a prohibition on issuing a wine festival license for use in a certain legislative district; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Prince George's County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 26–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 26–1304
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

26–102.

This title applies only in Prince George's County.

26–1304.

(a) [In this section, "Festival" means the Prince George's County Wine Festival.

(b) (1) There is a [Prince George's County Wine Festival license] **WINE FESTIVAL LICENSE**.

[(2) The Board may issue one license each year.]



[(c)] (B) The Board may issue the license to a holder of a retail license, Class 3 winery license, or Class 4 limited winery license.

[(d)] (C) The license authorizes the license holder to display and sell wine that is:

- (1) manufactured and processed in any state; and
- (2) distributed in the State when the license application is filed.

[(e)] (D) A license holder shall display and sell wine:

- (1) for on- and off-premises consumption; and
- (2) during the hours and days designated for the [Festival] WINE FESTIVAL.

FESTIVAL.

[(f)] (E) (1) The Board shall:

- (i) choose [a] THE location for the [Festival] WINE FESTIVAL that ~~is not in the 24th Legislative District; and~~ ~~is not already licensed; and~~

(ii) ensure that the primary focus of the [Festival] WINE FESTIVAL is the promotion of Maryland wine.

(2) Subject to paragraph (3) of this subsection, each year the Board may choose [1 weekend] THE WEEKENDS, Friday through Sunday, inclusive, for the [Festival] WINE FESTIVALS.

(3) The [weekend] WEEKENDS chosen for [the Festival] WINE FESTIVALS may not:

- (i) be within 14 days before or after the dates chosen for the Maryland Wine Festival in Carroll County; or
- (ii) conflict with the dates chosen for the:
 - 1. Anne Arundel County Beer and Wine Festival;
 - 2. Calvert County Wine Festival;
 - 3. Charles County Beer and Wine Festival; or



4. Howard County Wine Festival.

[(g)] (F) The license holder may hold another license of a different class or nature.

[(h)] (G) Wine displayed and sold shall be:

(1) invoiced to the license holder by a licensed wholesaler, Class 3 winery, or Class 4 limited winery; and

(2) delivered to the **[Festival] WINE FESTIVAL** from the licensed premises of the wholesaler, Class 3 winery, or Class 4 limited winery.

[(i)] (H) A holder of a wholesale, Class 3 winery, or Class 4 limited winery license may enter into an agreement with the license holder to:

(1) deliver wine not earlier than 2 days before the effective date of the license; and

(2) accept returns not later than 2 days after the expiration date of the license.

[(j)] (I) The Board may set the license fee.

[(k)] (J) The Board shall adopt regulations to carry out this section.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages – Notice of Issuance of Class C Per Diem Beer, Wine, and Liquor License PG 319–26

HB0583



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 26-1311



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Replaces the County Department of Environmental Resources with the Department of Permitting, Inspections, and Enforcement as the agency the Board shall notify when issuing a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license for an event.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 837

(House Bill 583)

AN ACT concerning

Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Notice of Issuance of Class C Per Diem Beer, Wine, and Liquor License

PG 319–26

FOR the purpose of updating the name of a certain office to which the Board of License Commissioners for Prince George's County must provide notice when issuing a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Prince George's County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 26–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 26–1311
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

26–102.

This title applies only in Prince George's County.

26–1311.

(a) When the Board issues a Class C per diem beer, wine, and liquor license, the Board shall provide notice of the event for which the license is issued to:

- (1) the County Police Chief;
- (2) the County Fire Chief;



(3) the director of the [County Department of Environmental Resources] **DEPARTMENT OF PERMITTING, INSPECTIONS, AND ENFORCEMENT**; and

(4) if applicable, the chief administrative officer of the municipality in which the event is to be held.

(b) The notice shall include the time, place, and expected size of the event.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Class B (Golf Course) License - Hours of Sale

SB0700
HB0754



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 32-1003



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Changes the opening hour of a Class B BWL (golf course) licensee from 10am to 7am every day.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 821

(Senate Bill 700)

AN ACT concerning

Wicomico County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class B (Golf Course) License – Hours of Sale

FOR the purpose of altering the hours during which a holder of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (golf course) license in Wicomico County may sell alcoholic beverages; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Wicomico County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 32–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 32–1003
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

32–102

This title applies only in Wicomico County.

32–1003.

(a) There is a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (golf course) license.

(b) The Board of License Commissioners may issue the license for the use of a golf course or organization that:

- (1) is open to the public;
- (2) is operated for profit;
- (3) owns real estate in the county; and

WICOMICO COUNTY / ALCOHOL / 2026 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



(4) has a golf course with a minimum of 18 holes.

(c) (1) The license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption on the land and in the buildings, including the clubhouse, used for golfing purposes.

(2) A patron need not be seated to be served.

(d) A holder of the license may sell beer, wine, and liquor:

(1) on Monday through Saturday, from [10 a.m.] **7 A.M.** to 2 a.m. the following day; and

(2) on Sunday, from [10 a.m.] **7 A.M.** to midnight.

(e) The annual license fee is \$2,200.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 820

(House Bill 754)

AN ACT concerning

Wicomico County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class B (Golf Course) License – Hours of Sale

FOR the purpose of altering the hours during which a holder of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (golf course) license in Wicomico County may sell alcoholic beverages; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Wicomico County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 32–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 32–1003
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

32–102.

This title applies only in Wicomico County.

32–1003.

(a) There is a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (golf course) license.

(b) The Board of License Commissioners may issue the license for the use of a golf course or organization that:

- (1) is open to the public;
- (2) is operated for profit;
- (3) owns real estate in the county; and

WICOMICO COUNTY / ALCOHOL / 2026 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



(4) has a golf course with a minimum of 18 holes.

(c) (1) The license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption on the land and in the buildings, including the clubhouse, used for golfing purposes.

(2) A patron need not be seated to be served.

(d) A holder of the license may sell beer, wine, and liquor:

(1) on Monday through Saturday, from [10 a.m.] **7 A.M.** to 2 a.m. the following day; and

(2) on Sunday, from [10 a.m.] **7 A.M.** to midnight.

(e) The annual license fee is \$2,200.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Board of License Commissioners - Membership

SB0681

HB0914



STATUTES AFFECTED: Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 33-202



EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2026

■ SUMMARY

- Increases the number of members on the board from 3 to 5
- Updates the starting date used to stagger member terms from July 1, 2016 to June 1, 2026 (the date the bill becomes effective).
- Confirms the three current members serve out their existing terms — one expiring June 30, 2026, and two expiring June 30, 2029.
- Sets the initial terms of the two added members to begin July 1, 2026.

FULL BILL TEXT FOLLOWS AFTER THE SUMMARY



Chapter 839

(Senate Bill 681)

AN ACT concerning

Worcester County – Board of License Commissioners – Membership

FOR the purpose of increasing the number of members on the Board of License Commissioners for Worcester County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Worcester County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 33–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 33–202
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

33–102.

This title applies only in Worcester County.

33–202.

(a) The Governor shall appoint [three] **FIVE** members to the Board, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

(b) Each member of the Board shall be:

- (1) a resident and voter of the county; and
- (2) an individual of high character and integrity and of recognized business capacity.

(c) (1) The term of a member is 4 years.



(2) The terms of the members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Board on [July 1, 2016] **JUNE 1, 2026.**

(d) (1) The Governor shall appoint an eligible individual to fill a vacancy during the remainder of the term of office of the individual originally appointed in accordance with subsection (a) of this section.

(2) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the remainder of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(e) (1) The Governor may remove a member for misconduct in office, incompetence, or willful neglect of duty.

(2) The Governor shall give a member who is charged a copy of the charges against the member and, with at least 10 days' notice, an opportunity to be heard publicly in person or by counsel.

(3) If a member is removed, the Governor shall file with the Office of the Secretary of State a statement of charges against the member and the Governor's findings on the charges.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The terms of the three members of the Board of License Commissioners for Worcester County who are in office on the effective date of this Act shall expire as follows:

(1) the term of the one member whose term is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2027, shall expire on June 30, 2027; and

(2) the term of the two members whose terms are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2029, shall expire on June 30, 2029.

(b) The initial terms of the two additional members of the Board of License Commissioners for Worcester County, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall begin July 1, 2026.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 840

(House Bill 914)

AN ACT concerning

Worcester County – Board of License Commissioners – Membership

FOR the purpose of increasing the number of members on the Board of License Commissioners for Worcester County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Worcester County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 33–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 33–202
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

33–102.

This title applies only in Worcester County.

33–202.

(a) The Governor shall appoint [three] **FIVE** members to the Board, subject to the advice and consent of the Senate.

(b) Each member of the Board shall be:

- (1) a resident and voter of the county; and
- (2) an individual of high character and integrity and of recognized business capacity.

(c) (1) The term of a member is 4 years.



(2) The terms of the members are staggered as required by the terms provided for members of the Board on [July 1, 2016] **JUNE 1, 2026.**

(d) (1) The Governor shall appoint an eligible individual to fill a vacancy during the remainder of the term of office of the individual originally appointed in accordance with subsection (a) of this section.

(2) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the remainder of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

(e) (1) The Governor may remove a member for misconduct in office, incompetence, or willful neglect of duty.

(2) The Governor shall give a member who is charged a copy of the charges against the member and, with at least 10 days' notice, an opportunity to be heard publicly in person or by counsel.

(3) If a member is removed, the Governor shall file with the Office of the Secretary of State a statement of charges against the member and the Governor's findings on the charges.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That:

(a) The terms of the three members of the Board of License Commissioners for Worcester County who are in office on the effective date of this Act shall expire as follows:

(1) the term of the one member whose term is scheduled to expire on June 30, 2027, shall expire on June 30, 2027; and

(2) the term of the two members whose terms are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2029, shall expire on June 30, 2029.

(b) The initial terms of the two additional members of the Board of License Commissioners for Worcester County, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall begin July 1, 2026.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Alcoholic Beverages - Temporary To-Go Event Permit and Class C Per Diem Municipal To-Go Beer, Wine, and Liquor License

SB0846
HB1101



STATUTES AFFECTED:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Section 33-602, 33-604, 33-803, 33-805, 33-902, and 33-904



EFFECTIVE DATE:

July 1, 2026

SUMMARY

- Establishes a temporary to-go event permit for Class B or Class D license holders near a municipal special event license area.
 - Establishments must sit within or immediately adjacent to a special event area tied to a Class C per diem municipal to-go beer, wine, and liquor license.
 - Permits the sale of retail beer, wine, and liquor in approved to-go cups that may be carried outside the establishment and into the designated special event area.
 - Ties the permit term to the associated Class C per diem municipal to-go license.
 - Sets the fee at \$20 per day.
- Directs the Board to adopt regulations on:
 - Special event area designation,
 - Hours of sale,
 - Age verification,
 - To-go cup use, and
- Advertising/notice/hearing requirements.
- Creates a Class C per diem municipal to-go license.
 - Allows beer, wine, and liquor sold under a temporary to-go permit to enter a designated special event area for up to 7 consecutive days.
 - The Board may issue the license to:
 - The town of Berlin,
 - Pocomoke City, or
 - The town of Snow Hill.
 - Sets the fee at \$45 per day.
- Directs the Board to adopt regulations on:
 - Special event area designation,
 - Hours of sale,
 - Age verification,
 - To-go cup use,
 - Advertising/notice/hearing requirements, and
 - Public safety and event security.



Chapter 835

(Senate Bill 846)

AN ACT concerning

Worcester County – Alcoholic Beverages – Temporary To-Go Event Permit and Class C Per Diem Municipal To-Go Beer, Wine, and Liquor License

FOR the purpose of establishing a temporary to-go event permit in Worcester County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Worcester County to issue a temporary to-go event permit to a holder of a Class B ~~beer, wine, and liquor license~~ or a Class D license under certain circumstances; establishing a Class C per diem municipal to-go beer, wine, and liquor license in the county; authorizing the Board to issue a Class C per diem municipal to-go beer, wine, and liquor license to ~~a municipality~~ certain municipalities in the county; requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Worcester County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 33-102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section ~~33-902~~ 33-602, 33-604, 33-803, 33-805, 33-902, and 33-904
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
Section 33-1105 and 33-1311
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

33-102.

This title applies only in Worcester County.

33-602.



(a) There is a Class B beer license.

(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer at retail at a hotel or restaurant at the place described in the license for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.

(c) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$275 for a 6-day license; and

(2) \$350 for a 7-day license.

(D) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-604.

(a) There is a Class D beer license.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the license authorizes the license holder to sell beer at retail at the place described in the license for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.

(2) A license may not be issued for a drugstore.

(c) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$325 for a 6-day license; and

(2) \$450 for a 7-day license.

(D) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.



(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-803.

(a) There is:

(1) a Class B beer and wine 6-day license; and

(2) a Class B beer and wine 7-day license.

(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine at a hotel or restaurant, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.

(c) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$300 for a 6-day license; and

(2) \$400 for a 7-day license.

(D) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER AND WINE IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-805.

(a) There is:

(1) a Class D beer and wine 6-day license; and

(2) a Class D beer and wine 7-day license.

(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.



(c) The license may not be issued for use by a drugstore.

(d) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$350 for a 6–day license; and

(2) \$500 for a 7–day license.

(E) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO–GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33–1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO–GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33–1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO–GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER AND WINE IN APPROVED TO–GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33–902.

(a) There are:

(1) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor 6–day license; and

(2) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor 7–day license.

(b) (1) The Board may issue a 6–day license for use in:

(i) a hotel that has at least 20 rooms and serves meals regularly; or

(ii) a restaurant that has seating at tables for at least 70 individuals.

(2) The Board may issue a 7–day license for use in:

(i) a hotel that:

1. has at least 20 rooms and serves meals regularly;

2. provides services ordinarily found in hotels;

3. has a lobby with a registration and mail desk and seating

facilities; and



4. has an enclosed dining area that serves full-course meals from menus at least two times a day; or

(ii) a restaurant that has:

1. a seating capacity at tables for at least 70 individuals;

2. an enclosed dining area that serves full-course meals from menus at least two times a day; and

3. average daily receipts from the sale of food that exceed the average daily receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages during the license term.

(3) The Board may not issue a license under this section for use in a hotel or restaurant unless the hotel or restaurant is:

(i) operated in a clean and sanitary manner; and

(ii) has proper restroom facilities.

(4) Before a license under this section may be issued for a premises in a municipality, the license application:

(i) shall be approved by the Board; and

(ii) may be subject to approval by the mayor and town council of the municipality.

(c) A license under this section authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.

(d) (1) The annual license fees are:

(i) \$1,750 for a 6-day license; and

(ii) \$2,000 for a 7-day license.

(2) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, all license fees shall be distributed to the general fund of the county.

(ii) If the licensed premises is located in a municipality, 75% of the license fees shall be distributed to the municipality.

(E) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION



IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-904.

(a) There are:

- (1) a 6-day Class D beer, wine, and liquor license; and
- (2) a 7-day Class D beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board may issue a license under this section only for premises within:

- (1) the corporate limits of Ocean City;
- (2) the boundary lines of the 10th taxing district;
- (3) the area bounded by U.S. Route 50 to the south, Turville Creek and Herring Creek to the east, St. Martin River to the north, and Maryland Route 589 to the west;
- (4) the area bounded by Maryland Route 589 to the north and east, U.S. Route 50 to the south, and U.S. Route 113 to the west;
- (5) from the intersection of Maryland Route 589 and U.S. Route 50, an area bounded by a line that extends 1,500 feet south of U.S. Route 50, east to the boundary of the 10th taxing district, north along the 10th taxing district boundary to U.S. Route 50, and west to the intersection of Maryland Route 589 and U.S. Route 50;
- (6) the corporate limits of the Town of Berlin; and
- (7) the corporate limits of the Town of Snow Hill.

(c) A license under this section authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor at retail at the place described in the license for on-premises consumption and beer and wine for off-premises consumption.

(d) The annual license fees, set by the County Commissioners, may not be less than:



- (1) \$3,000 for a 6-day license; and
- (2) \$3,500 for a 7-day license.

(E) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-1105.

(A) THERE IS A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE PERMIT TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS B ~~BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR~~ LICENSE OR A CLASS D LICENSE IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN AND FOR USE IN CONJUNCTION WITH A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(C) THE PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CLASS B LICENSE OR THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CLASS D LICENSE AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

(D) THE PERMIT HOLDER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLYING WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

(E) THE TERM OF THE PERMIT IS THE SAME AS THE TERM OF THE ASSOCIATED CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(F) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE OF AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PERMIT, INCLUDING REGULATIONS RELATED TO:

- (1) THE DESIGNATION OF A SPECIAL EVENT AREA;**



- (2) THE HOURS OF SALE;
 - (3) AGE VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS;
 - (4) THE USE OF SPECIFIED TO-GO CUPS; AND
 - (5) ADVERTISING, POSTING OF NOTICE, AND PUBLIC HEARING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT.
- (G) THE FEE FOR THE PERMIT IS \$20 PER DAY.

33-1311.

(A) THERE IS A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(B) THE LICENSE ENTITLES THE LICENSE HOLDER TO ALLOW BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR SOLD BY A HOLDER OF A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO ENTER A DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE FOR A PERIOD NOT EXCEEDING 7 CONSECUTIVE DAYS.

(C) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE TO ~~A MUNICIPALITY IN THE COUNTY:~~

- (1) THE TOWN OF BERLIN;
- (2) POCOMOKE CITY; OR
- (3) THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL.

(D) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE OF AND REQUIREMENTS FOR A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION, INCLUDING REGULATIONS RELATED TO:

- (1) THE DESIGNATION OF A SPECIAL EVENT AREA;
- (2) THE HOURS OF SALE;
- (3) AGE VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS;
- (4) THE USE OF SPECIFIED TO-GO CUPS;



(5) ADVERTISING, POSTING OF NOTICE, AND PUBLIC HEARING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LICENSE AND ANY ASSOCIATED TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT; AND

(6) PUBLIC SAFETY AND EVENT SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

(E) THE FEE FOR THE LICENSE IS \$45 PER DAY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.



Chapter 834

(House Bill 1101)

AN ACT concerning

Worcester County – Alcoholic Beverages – Temporary To-Go Event Permit and Class C Per Diem Municipal To-Go Beer, Wine, and Liquor License

FOR the purpose of establishing a temporary to-go event permit in Worcester County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Worcester County to issue a temporary to-go event permit to a holder of a Class B ~~beer, wine, and liquor~~ license or a Class D license under certain circumstances; establishing a Class C per diem municipal to-go beer, wine, and liquor license in the county; authorizing the Board to issue a Class C per diem municipal to-go beer, wine, and liquor license to ~~a municipality~~ certain municipalities in the county; requiring the Board to adopt certain regulations; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Worcester County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 33–102
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section ~~33–902~~ 33–602, 33–604, 33–803, 33–805, 33–902, and 33–904
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 33–1105 and 33–1311
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

33–102.

This title applies only in Worcester County.

33–602.



(a) There is a Class B beer license.

(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer at retail at a hotel or restaurant at the place described in the license for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.

(c) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$275 for a 6-day license; and

(2) \$350 for a 7-day license.

(D) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-604.

(a) There is a Class D beer license.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, the license authorizes the license holder to sell beer at retail at the place described in the license for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.

(2) A license may not be issued for a drugstore.

(c) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$325 for a 6-day license; and

(2) \$450 for a 7-day license.

(D) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.



(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-803.

(a) There is:

(1) a Class B beer and wine 6-day license; and

(2) a Class B beer and wine 7-day license.

(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine at a hotel or restaurant, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.

(c) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$300 for a 6-day license; and

(2) \$400 for a 7-day license.

(D) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER AND WINE IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-805.

(a) There is:

(1) a Class D beer and wine 6-day license; and

(2) a Class D beer and wine 7-day license.

(b) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer and wine, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.



(c) The license may not be issued for use by a drugstore.

(d) The annual license fees are:

(1) \$350 for a 6–day license; and

(2) \$500 for a 7–day license.

(E) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO–GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33–1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO–GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33–1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO–GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER AND WINE IN APPROVED TO–GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33–902.

(a) There are:

(1) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor 6–day license; and

(2) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor 7–day license.

(b) (1) The Board may issue a 6–day license for use in:

(i) a hotel that has at least 20 rooms and serves meals regularly; or

(ii) a restaurant that has seating at tables for at least 70 individuals.

(2) The Board may issue a 7–day license for use in:

(i) a hotel that:

1. has at least 20 rooms and serves meals regularly;

2. provides services ordinarily found in hotels;

3. has a lobby with a registration and mail desk and seating

facilities; and



4. has an enclosed dining area that serves full-course meals from menus at least two times a day; or

(ii) a restaurant that has:

1. a seating capacity at tables for at least 70 individuals;

2. an enclosed dining area that serves full-course meals from menus at least two times a day; and

3. average daily receipts from the sale of food that exceed the average daily receipts from the sale of alcoholic beverages during the license term.

(3) The Board may not issue a license under this section for use in a hotel or restaurant unless the hotel or restaurant is:

(i) operated in a clean and sanitary manner; and

(ii) has proper restroom facilities.

(4) Before a license under this section may be issued for a premises in a municipality, the license application:

(i) shall be approved by the Board; and

(ii) may be subject to approval by the mayor and town council of the municipality.

(c) A license under this section authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor, at retail, at the place described in the license, for on-premises consumption or on- and off-premises consumption.

(d) (1) The annual license fees are:

(i) \$1,750 for a 6-day license; and

(ii) \$2,000 for a 7-day license.

(2) (i) Subject to subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph, all license fees shall be distributed to the general fund of the county.

(ii) If the licensed premises is located in a municipality, 75% of the license fees shall be distributed to the municipality.

(E) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION



IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-904.

(a) There are:

(1) a 6-day Class D beer, wine, and liquor license; and

(2) a 7-day Class D beer, wine, and liquor license.

(b) The Board may issue a license under this section only for premises within:

(1) the corporate limits of Ocean City;

(2) the boundary lines of the 10th taxing district;

(3) the area bounded by U.S. Route 50 to the south, Turville Creek and Herring Creek to the east, St. Martin River to the north, and Maryland Route 589 to the west;

(4) the area bounded by Maryland Route 589 to the north and east, U.S. Route 50 to the south, and U.S. Route 113 to the west;

(5) from the intersection of Maryland Route 589 and U.S. Route 50, an area bounded by a line that extends 1,500 feet south of U.S. Route 50, east to the boundary of the 10th taxing district, north along the 10th taxing district boundary to U.S. Route 50, and west to the intersection of Maryland Route 589 and U.S. Route 50;

(6) the corporate limits of the Town of Berlin; and

(7) the corporate limits of the Town of Snow Hill.

(c) A license under this section authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor at retail at the place described in the license for on-premises consumption and beer and wine for off-premises consumption.

(d) The annual license fees, set by the County Commissioners, may not be less than:



- (1) \$3,000 for a 6-day license; and
- (2) \$3,500 for a 7-day license.

(E) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO A HOLDER OF A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE ISSUED UNDER § 33-1311 OF THIS TITLE.

(2) THE TEMPORARY TO-GO PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

33-1105.

(A) THERE IS A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT.

(B) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE PERMIT TO A HOLDER OF A CLASS B ~~BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR~~ LICENSE OR A CLASS D LICENSE IF THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED WITHIN OR IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO A SPECIAL EVENT AREA IDENTIFIED IN AND FOR USE IN CONJUNCTION WITH A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(C) THE PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO SELL AT RETAIL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR IN APPROVED TO-GO CUPS THAT MAY BE CARRIED OUTSIDE THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CLASS B LICENSE OR THE LICENSED ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CLASS D LICENSE AND INTO THE DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA.

(D) THE PERMIT HOLDER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLYING WITH ALL APPLICABLE LAWS AND REGULATIONS.

(E) THE TERM OF THE PERMIT IS THE SAME AS THE TERM OF THE ASSOCIATED CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(F) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE OF AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PERMIT, INCLUDING REGULATIONS RELATED TO:

- (1) THE DESIGNATION OF A SPECIAL EVENT AREA;**



- (2) THE HOURS OF SALE;
- (3) AGE VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS;
- (4) THE USE OF SPECIFIED TO-GO CUPS; AND
- (5) ADVERTISING, POSTING OF NOTICE, AND PUBLIC HEARING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT.

(G) THE FEE FOR THE PERMIT IS \$20 PER DAY.

33-1311.

(A) THERE IS A CLASS C PER DIEM MUNICIPAL TO-GO BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.

(B) THE LICENSE ENTITLES THE LICENSE HOLDER TO ALLOW BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR SOLD BY A HOLDER OF A TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT UNDER § 33-1105 OF THIS TITLE TO ENTER A DESIGNATED SPECIAL EVENT AREA DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE FOR A PERIOD NOT EXCEEDING 7 CONSECUTIVE DAYS.

(C) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE LICENSE TO ~~A MUNICIPALITY IN THE COUNTY:~~

- (1) THE TOWN OF BERLIN;
- (2) POCOMOKE CITY; OR
- (3) THE TOWN OF SNOW HILL.

(D) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS RELATED TO THE ISSUANCE OF AND REQUIREMENTS FOR A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION, INCLUDING REGULATIONS RELATED TO:

- (1) THE DESIGNATION OF A SPECIAL EVENT AREA;
- (2) THE HOURS OF SALE;
- (3) AGE VERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS;
- (4) THE USE OF SPECIFIED TO-GO CUPS;



(5) ADVERTISING, POSTING OF NOTICE, AND PUBLIC HEARING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE LICENSE AND ANY ASSOCIATED TEMPORARY TO-GO EVENT PERMIT; AND

(6) PUBLIC SAFETY AND EVENT SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

(E) THE FEE FOR THE LICENSE IS \$45 PER DAY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Approved by the Governor, May 26, 2026.

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ALCOHOL TOBACCO AND CANNABIS COMMISSION

1215 East Fort Avenue, Suite 300, Baltimore, Maryland 21230

(443) 300-6990 / atcc.info@maryland.gov

atcc.maryland.gov