

# HOUSE BILL 1550

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CF SB 1079

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By: **Washington County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: February 19, 2016

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Washington County – Alcoholic Beverages – Hotel and Motel Licenses**

3 FOR the purpose of altering certain conditions under which the Board of License  
4 Commissioners of Washington County may issue a certain alcoholic beverages  
5 license to the owner of a hotel or motel; requiring the hotel or motel to have certain  
6 lobby facilities; requiring the hotel or motel to have a certain ballroom, conference  
7 room, or banquet room instead of certain dining facilities; altering the authority of  
8 the license holder under the license; authorizing the Board to adopt certain  
9 regulations; and generally relating to an alcoholic beverages license for hotels or  
10 motels in Washington County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
12 Article – Alcoholic Beverages  
13 Section 31–102 and 31–1903  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (As enacted by Chapter \_\_\_\_ (S.B. 724) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article – Alcoholic Beverages  
18 Section 31–903  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (As enacted by Chapter \_\_\_\_ (S.B. 724) of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2016)

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

23 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages**

24 31–102.

25 This title applies only in Washington County.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 31-903.

2 (a) There is a Class B beer, wine, and liquor ~~[(on- and off-sale)]~~ **(ON-SALE)** hotel  
3 and restaurant license.

4 (b) The Board may issue the license to the owner of a hotel **OR MOTEL** that:

5 (1) is in a building at least three stories tall that was originally constructed  
6 for hotel **OR MOTEL** purposes;

7 (2) has a capital investment of at least \$500,000; and

8 (3) contains:

9 (i) at least one passenger elevator;

10 (ii) at least 100 rooms to accommodate the public; ~~[and]~~

11 **(III) A LOBBY WITH A REGISTRATION AND MAIL DESK AND**  
12 **SEATING FACILITIES; AND**

13 ~~[(iii)]~~ **(IV) [a dining room with facilities for preparing and serving**  
14 **regular meals for at least 125 individuals at one seating] A BALLROOM, CONFERENCE**  
15 **ROOM, OR BANQUET ROOM.**

16 (c) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor at a  
17 hotel or restaurant at retail at the place described in the license, for ~~[on- and off-premises]~~  
18 **ON-PREMISES** consumption:

19 **(1) THROUGH ROOM SERVICE OR OTHERWISE TO REGISTERED**  
20 **GUESTS; OR**

21 **(2) BY THE GLASS, BOTTLE, OR CAN TO INDIVIDUALS ATTENDING AN**  
22 **EVENT IN A BALLROOM, CONFERENCE ROOM, OR BANQUET ROOM.**

23 (d) ~~[The]~~ **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN REGULATIONS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD**  
24 **UNDER SUBSECTION (F) OF THIS SECTION, THE** license holder may sell beer, wine, and  
25 liquor during the hours and days as set out for a Class B beer, wine, and liquor ~~[(on- and~~  
26 ~~off-sale)]~~ **(ON-SALE)** license under ~~[\$ 31-2004(b)]~~ **§ 31-2004(C)** of this title.

27 (e) (1) The annual license fee is \$1,000.

28 (2) The fee for a Sunday permit is \$250.

1           **(F) THE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS SECTION,**  
2 **INCLUDING REGULATIONS THAT:**

3                   **(1) PROVIDE FOR THE MANNER OF DISPENSING BEER, WINE, AND**  
4 **LIQUOR UNDER THE LICENSE;**

5                   **(2) PROVIDE FOR THE HOURS AND DAYS OF SALE; AND**

6                   **(3) LIMIT THE QUANTITY OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES THAT MAY BE**  
7 **SOLD TO AN INDIVIDUAL AS A SINGLE SERVING OR DURING A 24-HOUR PERIOD.**

8 31-1903.

9           (a) (1) The license holder or an individual designated by the license holder who  
10 is employed in a supervisory capacity shall:

11                   (i) be certified by an approved alcohol awareness program; and

12                   (ii) except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, be present  
13 on the licensed premises during the hours in which alcoholic beverages may be sold.

14           (2) The license holder or individual specified in paragraph (1) of this  
15 subsection may be absent from the licensed premises for a personal or business reason or  
16 an emergency if the absence lasts for not more than 2 hours.

17           (3) The Board shall require the license holder to keep a log book on the  
18 licensed premises that documents each temporary absence, the length of time of the  
19 absence, and the reason for the absence, in the form that the Board requires.

20           (b) A license holder who violates this section is subject to:

21                   (1) for a first offense, a \$100 fine; and

22                   (2) for each subsequent offense, a fine not exceeding \$500 or a suspension  
23 or revocation of the license or both.

24           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
25 1, 2016.