

Department of Legislative Services  
Maryland General Assembly  
2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
Third Reader

House Bill 39  
Economic Matters

(Delegate Arentz)  
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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Queen Anne's County - Alcoholic Beverages - Repeal of Place of Worship  
Prohibition

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This bill removes the prohibition on the Queen Anne's County Board of License Commissioners from issuing an alcoholic beverages license to an establishment located within 500 feet of a place of worship. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2020.**

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Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill is not anticipated to materially affect Queen Anne's County finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Overall minimal but potential meaningful for establishments that are able to obtain an alcoholic beverages license under the bill.

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Analysis

**Current Law:** Generally, the board may not issue alcoholic beverages licenses to establishments located within 500 feet of a place of worship, an elementary or secondary school, a public library, or a youth center sponsored or conducted by a government unit. This prohibition does not apply to the renewal or transfer of a license issued before May 1, 1976, or the issuance of a Class B (on-sale) hotel and restaurant license of any type.

**Background:** In fiscal 2019, there were 91 alcoholic beverages licenses issued in Queen Anne's County.

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## Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Queen Anne's County; Comptroller's Office; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 14, 2020  
af/tso Third Reader - March 5, 2020

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