

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 1281
Economic Matters

(Delegate Kipke)

Anne Arundel County - Alcoholic Beverages - Limited Cultural Event Permit

This bill establishes a limited cultural event permit in Anne Arundel County and authorizes the Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners to issue the permit to a Class B, Class C, or Class D license holder, or a Class H or Class BLX license holder that is at least 1,000 feet away from a place of worship or school. The permit authorizes its holder to provide cultural music, dancing, and other legal forms of cultural entertainment for the date stated on the permit application. Before issuing the permit, the board may require a license holder to provide information on the event, including its date and the type of cultural entertainment planned. For each one-day permit, the fee is \$15 for the holder of a beer and wine license, and \$25 for the holder of a beer, wine, and liquor license. There is no permit charge for the holder of a Class C license. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County revenues may increase minimally beginning in FY 2026 to the extent limited cultural event permits are issued. Anne Arundel County expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, in Anne Arundel County, except for piped-in background music or one television screen, the holder of any class of alcoholic beverages license may not permit playing music, live music, a karaoke machine, a disc jockey, dancing, floor shows,

or any other similar type of entertainment on the licensed premises or on an adjacent property in which the licensee has ownership or control. However, a Class B, Class BLX, Class D, or Class H license may obtain specified special entertainment licenses to allow entertainment activities such as dancing, karaoke, or watching television. Those special licenses include music, entertainment, dancing, outdoor, and outdoor entertainment permits.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 12, 2025
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