

Support SB 700.pdf

Uploaded by: A.Kaye Kenney

Position: FAV



WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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Bunky Luffman
Director of Administration

Steven S. Lakin
Assistant Director of Administration

Julie M. Giordano
County Executive

February 18, 2026

Finance Committee
Attn: Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Beidle and Committee Members

RE: Support for SB 700– Wicomico County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class B (Golf Course) License – Hours of Sale

Dear Senator Mautz:

I am writing to express my strong support for **Senate Bill 700**, which proposes to modernize the hours of sale for Class B (Golf Course) liquor licenses in Wicomico County. This bill represents a practical, business-friendly update that will strengthen local tourism, improve customer service, and help our golf facilities remain competitive in today's hospitality marketplace.

Golf courses are no longer limited to daytime recreation. Many facilities now host early-morning outings, charity tournaments, business networking events, weddings, and evening social gatherings. Allowing alcohol sales to begin at **7:00 a.m. instead of 10:00 a.m.** simply aligns the law with the realities of how golf courses operate today. For tournaments that begin early in the morning—especially fundraising and corporate events—this change is essential to meeting guest expectations and supporting the full experience that organizers seek to provide.

Equally important, extending these hours does **not** expand where alcohol can be served, who may serve it, or how it is regulated. License holders remain fully subject to all existing state and county regulations, including oversight by the Board of License Commissioners. SB 700 only adjusts the time frame during which sales may occur, giving businesses the flexibility to operate responsibly while better serving patrons.

This legislation also has clear economic benefits. Golf courses are major drivers of tourism, hospitality, and employment in Wicomico County. By enabling them to operate more competitively with similar venues in surrounding jurisdictions, SB 700 helps keep events, visitors, and spending right here in our community. Increased event bookings and customer satisfaction directly translate into more jobs, higher tax revenue, and a stronger local economy.

SB 700 is a common-sense update that supports business growth without compromising public safety. I respectfully urge the Finance Committee to give this bill a favorable report and allow Wicomico County's golf courses the tools they need to thrive.

Thank you for your time, consideration, and continued service to the people of Maryland.

Respectfully,

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND



Julie M. Giordano
County Executive

SB700 - LOS Wicomico Co. Senate Delegation.pdf

Uploaded by: Johnny Mautz

Position: FAV



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401
WICOMICO COUNTY DELEGATION

February 18, 2026

Senator Pam Beidle
Chair
Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT
SB700 Wicomico County – Alcoholic Beverages -Class B (Golf Course) License –
Hours of Sale

The Wicomico County Senate Delegation supports SB700 Wicomico County Class A Beer, Wine, and Liquor License – Alterations

I thank you for your committee's consideration of the bill and request a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mary Beth Carozza".

Senator Mary Beth Carozza
District 38
Somerset, Worcester and Wicomico Counties

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Johnny Mautz".

Senator Johnny Mautz
District 37
Caroline, Dorchester, Talbot, and
Wicomico Counties

26-0217 L Finance Committee-SB700.pdf

Uploaded by: Laura Hurley

Position: FAV



WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND

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WICOMICO COUNTY COUNCIL

John T. Cannon, President/At-Large
Jeff Merritt, Vice-President/District #2
James Winn, At-Large
Shanie Shields, District #1
David Ennis, District #3

Josh Hastings, District #4
Joe Holloway, District #5
Laura Hurley, Council Administrator

February 17, 2026

Finance Committee

Attn: Senator Pamela Beidle, Chair
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Wicomico County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class B (Golf Course) License – Hours of Sale;
Bill No. Senate Bill 700

Dear Senator Pamela Beidle and Members of the Finance Committee,

The Wicomico County Council is pleased to express its support for Senate Bill No. 700 to amend Section 32-1003 of the Alcoholic Beverages Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland to Allow the sale of alcoholic beverages for Golf Course License holders beginning at 7:00 a.m. instead of 10:00 a.m.

This amendment would bring Wicomico County in line with neighboring jurisdictions on the Eastern Shore that currently permit earlier sales on golf courses. Aligning the authorized hours would enable local golf courses to remain competitive when hosting tournaments and special events. These events draw visitors to our county, support tourism, and generate additional economic activity for local businesses.

We respectfully request the Delegation's favorable consideration of this proposed amendment as currently drafted.

Thank you for your consideration, and please do not hesitate to reach out if you require any additional information.

Sincerely,

WICOMICO COUNTY, MARYLAND



John T. Cannon, Council President

Enclosure

cc: Wicomico County Council
Wicomico County Delegation
Wicomico County Executive
Bunky Luffman, Director of Administration

SENATE BILL 700

A2

6lr3223
CF HB 754

By: **Wicomico County Senators**
Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026
Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Wicomico County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class B (Golf Course) License –**
3 **Hours of Sale**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the hours during which a holder of a Class B beer, wine, and
5 liquor (golf course) license in Wicomico County may sell alcoholic beverages; and
6 generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Wicomico County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
9 Section 32–102
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
14 Section 32–1003
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

20 32–102

21 This title applies only in Wicomico County.

22 32–1003.

23 (a) There is a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (golf course) license.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) The Board of License Commissioners may issue the license for the use of a golf
2 course or organization that:

- 3 (1) is open to the public;
- 4 (2) is operated for profit;
- 5 (3) owns real estate in the county; and
- 6 (4) has a golf course with a minimum of 18 holes.

7 (c) (1) The license holder may sell beer, wine, and liquor for consumption on
8 the land and in the buildings, including the clubhouse, used for golfing purposes.

9 (2) A patron need not be seated to be served.

10 (d) A holder of the license may sell beer, wine, and liquor:

- 11 (1) on Monday through Saturday, from [10 a.m.] 7 A.M. to 2 a.m. the
12 following day; and
- 13 (2) on Sunday, from [10 a.m.] 7 A.M. to midnight.

14 (e) The annual license fee is \$2,200.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
16 1, 2026.