

# SENATE BILL 656

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By: **Anne Arundel County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2024

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Anne Arundel County – Board of License Commissioners – Membership**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the number of members on the Board of License  
4 Commissioners for Anne Arundel County; increasing the number of Board members  
5 that may belong to the same political party; and generally relating to alcoholic  
6 beverages in Anne Arundel County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
8 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
9 Section 11–102 and 11–201  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2016 Volume and 2023 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
14 Section 11–202  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2016 Volume and 2023 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 11–102.

21 This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

22 11–201.

23 There is a Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 11-202.

2 (a) (1) The Governor shall appoint [~~three~~] **FIVE** members to the Board.

3 (2) The appointments shall be made:

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

6 (ii) if the Senate is not in session, by the Governor alone.

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

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

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

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

13 (c) (1) The term of a member is 2 years.

14 (2) A member may not serve more than four consecutive terms.

15 (d) (1) The Governor shall appoint an eligible individual to fill a vacancy  
16 during the remainder of the term of office of the individual originally appointed in  
17 accordance with subsection (a) of this section.

18 (2) A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the  
19 rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

20 (e) (1) The Governor may remove a member for misconduct in office,  
21 incompetence, or willful neglect of duty.

22 (2) The Governor shall give a member who is charged a copy of the charges  
23 against the member and, with at least 10 days' notice, an opportunity to be heard publicly  
24 in person or by counsel.

25 (3) If a member is removed, the Governor shall file with the Office of the  
26 Secretary of State a statement of charges against the member and the Governor's findings  
27 on the charges.

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the initial terms of the two  
29 additional members of the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County, as  
30 enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall begin May 1, 2025.

1           SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
2   1, 2024.