

Chapter 534

**(Senate Bill 855)**

AN ACT concerning

**Queen Anne’s County – Alcoholic Beverages – Repeal of Place of Worship Prohibition**

FOR the purpose of repealing a prohibition on the Board of License Commissioners for Queen Anne’s County from issuing a license to an establishment located within a certain distance of a place of worship; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Queen Anne’s County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Alcoholic Beverages  
Section 27–102  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2016 Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Alcoholic Beverages  
Section 27–1601  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2016 Volume and 2020 Supplement)

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

**Article – Alcoholic Beverages**

27–102.

This title applies only in Queen Anne’s County.

27–1601.

(a) (1) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the Board may not issue a license for an establishment unless the establishment is located at least 500 feet away from:

- (i) [a place of worship;
- (ii)] an elementary or secondary school;
- [(iii)] **(II)** a public library; or

unit. [(iv)] (III) a youth center sponsored or conducted by a governmental

(2) The distance is to be measured from the nearest point of the building of the establishment to the nearest point of the property line of the [place of worship,] elementary or secondary school, public library, or youth center.

(b) The prohibition against issuing a license in subsection (a) of this section does not apply to:

(1) the renewal or transfer of a license issued before May 1, 1976; or

(2) the issuance of a Class B (on-sale) hotel and restaurant license of any type.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

**Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 30, 2021.**