This bill allows any alcoholic beverages license to be issued for premises in Leonardtown that are within 300 feet of a place of worship or a public or nonpublic prekindergarten, kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school. The bill repeals an existing limitation that allowed only a Class B (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license to be issued in Leonardtown within that distance. The bill takes effect July 1, 2022.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect St. Mary’s County operations or finances.

Small Business Effect: Minimal overall, but potential meaningful for small businesses that are able to apply for alcoholic beverages licenses in Leonardtown under the bill.

Analysis

Current Law: The St. Mary’s County Board of License Commissioners may not issue a license for an establishment that is within 300 feet of a place of worship or a public or nonpublic kindergarten, elementary, or secondary school as measured from the nearest wall of the establishment in a direct line to the nearest point of the main building of the place of worship or the school. This prohibition does not apply to the issuance of a Class B (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license for an establishment in Leonardtown or if a place of worship or school locates its building within 300 feet of an already licensed premises.
Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** St. Mary’s County; Town of Leonardtown; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**
- First Reader - February 16, 2022
- Third Reader - March 21, 2022

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