

Chapter 1031

(Senate Bill 933)

AN ACT concerning

Harford County – Alcoholic Beverages – Performing Arts Theater License

FOR the purpose of altering eligibility for a performing arts theater license in Harford County by altering the definition of “performing arts theater” and authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Harford County to issue the license to a certain for-profit theater, rather than a nonprofit theater; authorizing the holder of the license to sell liquor for on-premises consumption in addition to beer and wine; altering the license fee; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Harford County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 22–102
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2016 Volume and 2023 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
 Section 22–1005.2 and ~~22–1501(b)(2)~~
 Annotated Code of Maryland
 (2016 Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

22–102.

This title applies only in Harford County.

22–1005.2.

(a) In this section, “performing arts theater” means an area, a building, or a structure designed and used for plays, acts, dramas, concerts, or histrionics by actors or actresses performing on a stage [or the showing of movies or films].

(b) There is a performing arts theater beer [and], wine, AND LIQUOR license.

(c) The Board may issue the license for use on the premises of a performing arts theater operated by a [nonprofit] **FOR-PROFIT** organization.

(d) The license authorizes the holder to sell or serve beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** at retail for on-premises consumption.

(e) The license holder may sell or serve beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR**:

- (1) 1 hour before and after a performance;
- (2) during a performance;
- (3) during an intermission; and
- (4) during a reception 1 hour before or 1 hour after a performance.

(f) The license may not be transferred to another location.

(g) The license holder shall purchase beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** from an authorized and licensed wholesaler.

~~(h) Issuance of a license under this section does not prohibit the Board from issuing a Class C per diem license that applies to the performing arts theater.~~

~~(i)~~ The license holder shall serve or offer for sale snacks at all times when beer [and], wine, **AND LIQUOR** are sold.

~~(j)~~ **(I)** The annual license fee is [\$500] **\$1,500**.

~~22-1501.~~

~~(b) The following sections of Title 4, Subtitle 2 (“Issuance or Denial of Local Licenses”) of Division I of this article apply in the county:~~

~~(2) § 4-203 (“Prohibition against issuing multiple licenses to individual or for use of entity”), subject to §§ 22-1503 and 22-1504 of this subtitle and Subtitle 13, Part III [and], Subtitle 16, Part II, **AND § 22-1005.2** of this title;~~

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

Approved by the Governor, May 16, 2024.