

# HOUSE BILL 574

A2

5lr1232

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By: **St. Mary's County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **St. Mary's County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Multiple Licensing Plans**

3 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for St. Mary's County  
4 to issue not more than a certain number of Class B beer, wine, and liquor restaurant  
5 licenses to a person under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from having  
6 a direct or indirect interest in more than a certain number of Class B beer, wine, and  
7 liquor restaurant licenses; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in  
8 St. Mary's County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
10 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
11 Section 28–102  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2024 Replacement Volume)

14 BY adding to  
15 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
16 Section 28–1606  
17 Annotated Code of Maryland  
18 (2024 Replacement Volume)

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

21 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

22 28–102.

23 This title applies only in St. Mary's County.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **28-1606.**

2 (A) (1) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTIONS (B) AND (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE  
3 BOARD MAY ISSUE TO AN INDIVIDUAL OR FOR THE USE OF A PERSON NOT MORE  
4 THAN THREE CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR RESTAURANT LICENSES.

5 (2) THE LICENSES SPECIFIED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS  
6 SUBSECTION ARE FOR SEPARATE PREMISES.

7 (B) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A PERSON  
8 MAY NOT HAVE A DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST IN MORE THAN THREE CLASS B  
9 BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR RESTAURANT LICENSES.

10 (2) A PERSON MAY NOT HAVE A DIRECT OR INDIRECT INTEREST IN  
11 MORE THAN ONE CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR RESTAURANT LICENSE IF THE  
12 LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE SALE OF ALCOHOL FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION.

13 (C) AN INDIRECT INTEREST IS PRESUMED TO EXIST BETWEEN ANY  
14 COMBINATION OF PERSONS IF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS EXIST  
15 BETWEEN THEM:

16 (1) A COMMON PARENT COMPANY;

17 (2) A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT;

18 (3) A LICENSING AGREEMENT;

19 (4) A CONCESSION AGREEMENT;

20 (5) DUAL MEMBERSHIP IN A CHAIN OF BUSINESSES COMMONLY  
21 OWNED AND OPERATED;

22 (6) (I) A SHARING OF DIRECTORS, STOCKHOLDERS, PARTNERS, OR  
23 MEMBERS; OR

24 (II) A SHARING OF DIRECTORS, STOCKHOLDERS, PARTNERS, OR  
25 MEMBERS OF PARENTS OR SUBSIDIARIES;

26 (7) COMMON DIRECT OR INDIRECT SHARING OF PROFIT FROM THE  
27 SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES; OR

28 (8) A SHARING OF A COMMON TRADE NAME, TRADEMARK, LOGO, OR  
29 THEME OR MODE OF OPERATION IDENTIFIABLE BY THE PUBLIC.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
2 1, 2025.