

# HOUSE BILL 987

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5lr2923  
CF SB 999

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By: ~~Delegates Mangione, Forbes, Nawrocki, and Szeliga~~ Baltimore County  
Delegation

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2025

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2025

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore County – Alcoholic Beverages – ~~Distance From Place of Worship~~**  
3 **~~Restriction – Exception~~ Class B-OB-CRD (Office Building – Commercial**  
4 **Revitalization District) Beer, Wine, and Liquor License**

5 FOR the purpose of establishing a Class B-OB-CRD (office building – commercial  
6 revitalization district) beer, wine, and liquor license in Baltimore County;  
7 authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore County to issue a  
8 ~~beer, wine, and liquor~~ the license to an establishment that previously had or has a  
9 certain zoning classification and is ~~within a certain distance of~~ at least a certain  
10 ~~distance from~~ a place of worship under certain circumstances and subject to certain  
11 limitations; providing a certain exception to a prohibition against issuing the license  
12 for an establishment that is within a certain distance of a place of worship; and  
13 generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Baltimore County.

14 BY renumbering

15 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
16 Section 13-1001.1  
17 to be Section 13-1001.2  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2024 Replacement Volume)

20 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

21 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

22 Section 13-102

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland  
2 (2024 Replacement Volume)

3 BY adding to  
4 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
5 Section 13–1001.1  
6 Annotated Code of Maryland  
7 (2024 Replacement Volume)

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
10 Section 13–1601  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2024 Replacement Volume)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
14 That Section(s) 13–1001.1 of Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis of the Annotated  
15 Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 13–1001.2.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
17 OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

19 13–102.

20 This title applies only in Baltimore County.

21 **13–1001.1.**

22 **(A) (1) THERE IS A CLASS B–OB–CRD (OFFICE BUILDING –**  
23 **COMMERCIAL REVITALIZATION DISTRICT) BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE.**

24 **(2) THE BOARD MAY NOT ISSUE MORE THAN ONE CLASS B–OB–CRD**  
25 **LICENSE IN THE COUNTY.**

26 **(B) (1) THE CLASS B–OB–CRD LICENSE MAY BE ISSUED ONLY FOR A**  
27 **RESTAURANT THAT:**

28 **(i) IS LOCATED IN:**

29 **1. THE TOWSON COMMERCIAL REVITALIZATION**  
30 **DISTRICT, AS DEFINED BY THE BALTIMORE COUNTY COUNCIL; AND**

31 **2. AN OFFICE BUILDING THAT IS AT LEAST 100,000**  
32 **SQUARE FEET IN SIZE;**

1                   **(II) PREVIOUSLY HAD OR HAS A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF**  
2 **BM-D.T. BY THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT; AND**

3                   **(III) IS AT LEAST 100 FEET FROM A PLACE OF WORSHIP.**

4                   **(2) THE CLASS B-OB-CRD LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE HOLDER TO**  
5 **SELL:**

6                   **(I) BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR FOR ON-PREMISES**  
7 **CONSUMPTION; AND**

8                   **(II) WINE FOR OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION IF THE WINE:**

9                               **1. IS PURCHASED ALONG WITH PREPARED FOOD OTHER**  
10 **THAN PREPACKAGED SNACKS; AND**

11                               **2. IS NOT DISPLAYED IN AN AREA ACCESSIBLE TO THE**  
12 **PUBLIC.**

13                   **(C) THE NUMBER OF SEATS AT THE BAR ON THE LICENSED PREMISES MAY**  
14 **NOT EXCEED 25% OF THE TOTAL NUMBER OF SEATS ON THE LICENSED PREMISES.**

15                   **(D) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR DURING THE**  
16 **HOURS AND DAYS AS SET OUT FOR A CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE**  
17 **UNDER § 13-2004 OF THIS TITLE.**

18                   **(E) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEE IS EQUAL TO THE FEE FOR A CLASS B BEER,**  
19 **WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE UNDER § 13-902 OF THIS TITLE.**

20 13-1601.

21                   (a) (1) Except as provided in ~~subsection~~ **SUBSECTIONS (b) AND (c)** of this  
22 section, the Board may not issue a license for an establishment that is within 300 feet of a  
23 place of worship or school.

24                   (2) The distance from the establishment to the place of worship or school is  
25 to be measured from the nearest point of the building of the establishment to the nearest  
26 point of the building of the place of worship or school.

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

29                               (1) the renewal or transfer of a license of an establishment if, after issuance  
30 of the license, a place of worship or school was built within 300 feet of the establishment;

- 1 (2) the issuance of a temporary license;
- 2 (3) a transfer that moves the licensed premises within the same building;
- 3 (4) a transfer of ownership of the licensed premises;
- 4 (5) the renewal of a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) license or a  
5 7-day Class BDR (deluxe restaurant) (on-sale) beer, wine, and liquor license, if the licensed  
6 premises has a seating capacity of more than 50 individuals and is within a town center; ~~or~~
- 7 (6) the transfer, conversion, and issuance of a license under § 13-1710 of  
8 this title; OR

9 **(7) THE ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE UNDER § 13-1001.1 OF THIS TITLE**  
10 **FOR AN ESTABLISHMENT WITHIN 300 FEET OF A PLACE OF WORSHIP, IF THE PLACE**  
11 **OF WORSHIP CONSENTS IN WRITING TO THE ISSUANCE OF THE LICENSE.**

12 ~~(C) THE PROHIBITION AGAINST ISSUING A LICENSE IN SUBSECTION (A) OF~~  
13 ~~THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO THE ISSUANCE OF A BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR~~  
14 ~~LICENSE FOR ON-OR-OFF-PREMISES CONSUMPTION FOR AN ESTABLISHMENT THAT~~  
15 ~~IS WITHIN 300 FEET OF A PLACE OF WORSHIP IF:~~

16 ~~(1) THE ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED IN THE TOWSON AREA, AS~~  
17 ~~DETERMINED BY THE BOARD;~~

18 ~~(2) THE ESTABLISHMENT IS LOCATED IN AN OFFICE BUILDING THAT~~  
19 ~~IS AT LEAST 100,000 SQUARE FEET IN SIZE;~~

20 ~~(3) THE ESTABLISHMENT HAS A ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF~~  
21 ~~BM-D-T BY THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT;~~

22 ~~(4) THE PLACE OF WORSHIP CONSENTS IN WRITING TO THE ISSUANCE~~  
23 ~~OF THE LICENSE; AND~~

24 ~~(5) (i) THE LICENSE IS TO APPLY TO A RESTAURANT, A MARKET, OR~~  
25 ~~ANOTHER SIMILAR ESTABLISHMENT; AND~~

26 ~~(ii) THE LICENSE IS NOT A CLASS A LICENSE.~~

27 SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
28 July 1, 2025.