

# SENATE BILL 50

L2

5lr0735

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Senator Simonaire**

Requested: September 2, 2024

Introduced and read first time: January 8, 2025

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Local Government – Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and**  
3 **Visitors Bureau Designation**

4 FOR the purpose of altering references to the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County  
5 Conference and Visitors Bureau to be Visit Annapolis and Anne Arundel County,  
6 Inc.; and generally relating to the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference  
7 and Visitors Bureau.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
9 Article – Local Government  
10 Section 20–603(b)(4), (c)(1), and (e)  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2013 Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Local Government**

16 20–603.

17 (b) (4) From any revenue generated in the City of Annapolis from the hotel  
18 tax, Anne Arundel County shall distribute:

19 (i) 3% to a special fund to be used only to provide funds to the  
20 Annapolis Art in Public Places Commission;

21 (ii) 3% to a special fund to be used only to provide funds to the Arts  
22 Council of Anne Arundel County, Inc.;

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (iii) 17% to a special fund to be used only to provide funds to [the  
2 Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and Visitors Bureau] **VISIT ANNAPOLIS**  
3 **AND ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, INC.**; and

4 (iv) 3% to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund established under §  
5 20.30.070 of the Code of the City of Annapolis to be used only for housing assistance  
6 payments.

7 (c) (1) From the county's share of revenue from the hotel tax, Anne Arundel  
8 County shall distribute:

9 (i) 3% to a special fund to be used only to provide funds to the Arts  
10 Council of Anne Arundel County, Inc.; and

11 (ii) 17% to a special fund to be used only to provide funds to [the  
12 Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and Visitors Bureau] **VISIT ANNAPOLIS**  
13 **AND ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, INC.**

14 (e) (1) On or before November 1 each year, the Arts Council of Anne Arundel  
15 County, Inc. and [the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and Visitors  
16 Bureau] **VISIT ANNAPOLIS AND ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, INC.** shall report on their  
17 use of hotel tax revenue during the preceding fiscal year to:

18 (i) the Anne Arundel County Executive;

19 (ii) the Mayor and City Council of the City of Annapolis; and

20 (iii) in accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the  
21 Senate Budget and Taxation Committee, the House Committee on Ways and Means, and  
22 the members of the General Assembly representing Anne Arundel County.

23 (2) The County Auditor of Anne Arundel County:

24 (i) may conduct an audit of the financial records of the Arts Council  
25 of Anne Arundel County, Inc. or [the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and  
26 Visitors Bureau] **VISIT ANNAPOLIS AND ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, INC.**; and

27 (ii) shall report any audit findings under item (i) of this paragraph  
28 to the governing body of Anne Arundel County.

29 (3) (i) The City of Annapolis or Anne Arundel County may withhold  
30 from appropriation special funds dedicated to the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County  
31 under this section if the Council fails to:

32 1. submit the report required under paragraph (1) of this  
33 subsection; or

1                                        2.     correct any audit findings identified under paragraph (2)  
2 of this subsection.

3                                        (ii)     The City of Annapolis or Anne Arundel County may withhold  
4 from appropriation special funds dedicated to [the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County  
5 Conference and Visitors Bureau] **VISIT ANNAPOLIS AND ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY,**  
6 **INC.** under this section if [the Bureau] **VISIT ANNAPOLIS AND ANNE ARUNDEL**  
7 **COUNTY, INC.** fails to:

8                                        1.     submit the report required under paragraph (1) of this  
9 subsection; or

10                                        2.     correct any audit findings identified under paragraph (2)  
11 of this subsection.

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