

# SENATE BILL 571

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5lr1390  
CF HB 99

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By: **Anne Arundel County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Anne Arundel County – Class A (Off-Sale) and Class D (Off-Sale) Licenses**  
3 **– Population Ratio Quota**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a population ratio quota for certain Class A (off-sale) and  
5 Class D (off-sale) licenses in Anne Arundel County; specifying a certain official map  
6 to be used to identify certain tax assessment districts for purposes of the population  
7 ratio quota; prohibiting the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel  
8 County from approving the transfer of certain alcoholic beverages licenses under  
9 certain circumstances; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne  
10 Arundel County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
12 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
13 Section 11–102  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2024 Replacement Volume)

16 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
17 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
18 Section 11–1602  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2024 Replacement Volume)

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

23 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

24 11–102.

25 This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 11-1602.

2 (a) In this section, “assessment district” means a tax assessment district:

3 (1) established by the county [through local law]; AND

4 (2) SHOWN ON THE OFFICIAL MAP ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY  
5 COUNCIL TITLED “TAX ASSESSMENT DISTRICTS, 2005”.

6 (b) [The] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE Board may  
7 issue a Class A (off-sale), Class B (off-sale), or Class D (off-sale) license based on its  
8 determination of whether the license is necessary to accommodate the public.

9 (c) [In making its determination,] IF THE APPLICATION IS FOR A CLASS A  
10 (OFF-SALE) OR CLASS D (OFF-SALE) LICENSE, the Board [may consider whether the  
11 establishment for which the license would be issued is in] MAY NOT ISSUE THE LICENSE  
12 IF:

13 (1) THE ESTABLISHMENT FOR WHICH THE LICENSE WOULD BE ISSUED  
14 IS LOCATED IN an assessment district in which the ratio of off-sale licenses per individual  
15 [is more than] EXCEEDS one [per] FOR EVERY 4,000 individuals; or

16 (2) [an assessment district in which the ratio of off-sale licenses per  
17 individual is less than one per 4,000 individuals] THE ISSUANCE OF THE LICENSE  
18 WOULD CAUSE THE RATIO OF OFF-SALE LICENSES PER INDIVIDUAL IN AN  
19 ASSESSMENT DISTRICT TO EXCEED ONE FOR EVERY 4,000 INDIVIDUALS.

20 (D) SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY:

21 (1) TO THE TRANSFER OR RENEWAL OF A LICENSE THAT WAS ISSUED  
22 ON OR BEFORE JULY 1, 2025; OR

23 (2) IN THE 6TH TAX ASSESSMENT DISTRICT.

24 (E) THE POPULATION OF EACH ASSESSMENT DISTRICT IS TO BE  
25 DETERMINED BY THE LATEST FEDERAL CENSUS.

26 (F) THE BOARD MAY NOT APPROVE THE TRANSFER OF A CLASS A  
27 (OFF-SALE) LICENSE OR CLASS D (OFF-SALE) LICENSE:

28 (1) TO A LOCATION OUTSIDE THE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT IN WHICH  
29 THE LICENSE WAS LOCATED ON JULY 1, 2025; OR

1                   **(2) IF THE LICENSE WAS NOT IN EXISTENCE AS OF JULY 1, 2025, TO A**  
2 **LOCATION OUTSIDE THE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT IN WHICH THE LICENSE WAS**  
3 **ORIGINALLY ISSUED.**

4                   SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
5 1, 2025.