

SENATE BILL 888

A2

5lr3147

By: **Senator Henson**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2025

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 16, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Anne Arundel County – Alcoholic Beverages – License and Permit Distance**
3 **Requirements**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing, rather than prohibiting, the Board of Liquor
5 Commissioners for Anne Arundel County to issue a certain dancing permit to the
6 holder of a Class H beer and wine (on–sale) license or Class H beer, wine, and liquor
7 (on–sale) license for a licensed premises located within a certain distance of a certain
8 school; and authorizing, rather than prohibiting, the Board from issuing a new Class
9 B beer and wine (on–sale) license or Class B beer, wine, and liquor (on–sale) license
10 if the establishment is located within a certain distance of a certain school; and
11 generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Anne Arundel County.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
14 Section 11–102
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2024 Replacement Volume)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
19 Section 11–1102(d) and 11–1603
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2024 Replacement Volume)

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

3 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

4 11–102.

5 This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

6 11–1102.

7 (d) (1) There is a dancing permit.

8 (2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of:

9 (i) a Class B license;

10 (ii) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, a Class
11 BLX license;

12 (iii) a Class C license;

13 (iv) a Class D license; or

14 (v) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, a Class H
15 license.

16 (3) The permit authorizes the holder to provide music, dancing, and other
17 legal forms of entertainment.

18 (4) (I) The Board may not issue the permit to a holder of a Class BLX
19 license or a Class H license if the premises for which the Class BLX license or Class H
20 license is issued is within 1,000 feet in a straight line from entry to entry from a place of
21 worship or school.

22 (II) **NOTWITHSTANDING SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS**
23 **PARAGRAPH, THE BOARD MAY ISSUE THE PERMIT TO THE HOLDER OF A CLASS H**
24 **LICENSE IF THE LICENSED PREMISES IS LOCATED WITHIN 1,000 FEET IN A STRAIGHT**
25 **LINE FROM ENTRY TO ENTRY FROM A SCHOOL LOCATED AT THE ANNAPOLIS MALL.**

26 (5) The annual permit fees are:

27 (i) \$200 for a holder of a beer and wine license;

28 (ii) \$400 for a holder of a beer, wine, and liquor license; and

29 (iii) no charge for a holder of a Class C license.

1 11-1603.

2 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the Board may not issue a
3 new license for an establishment whose entry is within 1,000 feet in a straight line from
4 the entry of a place of worship or school.

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

7 (1) the transfer of a license from the current license holder to a new license
8 holder, unless the transfer would allow the sale of alcoholic beverages by another
9 establishment within the 1,000-foot restriction;

10 (2) a nonprofit club or nonprofit organization;

11 (3) a restaurant that held a license at the time the restaurant was
12 destroyed by fire, flood, windstorm, or other act of God, if a new place of worship or school
13 has not been constructed within the 1,000-foot restriction;

14 (4) the issuance of a Class H beer and wine (on-sale) license or beer, wine,
15 and liquor (on-sale) license;

16 (5) the issuance of a motel-restaurant complex or hotel-restaurant
17 complex beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) license;

18 (6) the issuance of a Class BLX (deluxe restaurant) (on-sale) beer, wine,
19 and liquor license; [or]

20 (7) the issuance of a gift basket permit; **OR**

21 **(8) THE ISSUANCE OF A CLASS B BEER AND WINE (ON-SALE) LICENSE**
22 **OR CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR (ON-SALE) LICENSE FOR AN ESTABLISHMENT**
23 **LOCATED WITHIN 1,000 FEET OF A SCHOOL LOCATED AT THE ANNAPOLIS MALL.**

24 (c) For an establishment that is within 1,000 feet of the grounds of a place of
25 worship or school, the Board:

26 (1) may renew a license;

27 (2) may extend the area of the licensed premises; but

28 (3) may not change the operational classification of an existing license,
29 unless the change is from a Class B, Class C, or Class D license to a Class H license.

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

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.