

# SENATE BILL 972

A2

(5lr3244)

## *ENROLLED BILL*

— *Finance/Economic Matters* —

Introduced by **Senator Lam**

Read and Examined by Proofreaders:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Proofreader.

Sealed with the Great Seal and presented to the Governor, for his approval this

\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock, \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President.

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

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Anne Arundel County – Board of License Commissioners – Alterations**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing the membership of the Board of License Commissioners for  
4 Anne Arundel County; altering the eligibility requirements for Board membership;  
5 requiring the Board to adopt and publish a certain ethics policy; requiring the Board  
6 to include an option to provide certain information on an application for the issuance  
7 of a license or a license renewal; prohibiting the Board from using certain  
8 information as a factor in determining whether to issue or renew a license; requiring  
9 the Board to submit a certain report regarding enforcement actions to the General  
10 Assembly each year; ~~altering the penalties that the Board may impose for certain~~  
11 ~~violations;~~ and generally relating to the Board of License Commissioners for Anne  
12 Arundel County.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
14 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

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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.

*Italics indicate opposite chamber/conference committee amendments.*



Section 11–102  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2024 Replacement Volume)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
Section 11–202(a) and (b) ~~and 11–2802~~  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2024 Replacement Volume)

BY adding to  
Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
Section 11–210, 11–1409, and 11–2607  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2024 Replacement Volume)

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

**Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

11–102.

This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

11–202.

(a) (1) The Governor shall appoint [three] **FIVE** members to the Board.

(2) The appointments shall be made~~+~~:

(i) if the Senate is in session,~~+~~ with the advice and consent of the  
Senate~~+~~; or

(ii) if the Senate is not in session, by the Governor alone~~+~~.

(b) (1) Each member of the Board shall be:

(i) a resident and voter of the county; ~~and~~

(ii) SELECTED FROM A LIST OF INDIVIDUALS RECOMMENDED  
BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY HOUSE OR SENATE  
DELEGATION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY; AND

(iii) an individual of high character and integrity and of recognized  
business capacity.

(2) No more than ~~two~~ THREE members of the Board may belong to the same political party.

(3) NO MORE THAN TWO MEMBERS OF THE BOARD MAY BE RESIDENTS OF THE SAME STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT.

~~(4) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT BE APPOINTED TO THE BOARD IF THE INDIVIDUAL SERVED AS THE CHIEF INSPECTOR WITHIN 5 YEARS 1 YEAR OF THE DATE THAT THE VACANCY IS PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED.~~

11-210.

THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT AND PUBLISH A WRITTEN POLICY RELATED TO CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND THE RECUSAL OF BOARD MEMBERS FROM BOARD MATTERS.

11-1409.

(A) THE BOARD SHALL:

~~(1) INCLUDE ON ALL APPLICATION FORMS FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE OR A LICENSE RENEWAL AN OPTION FOR THE APPLICANT TO PROVIDE THE APPLICANT'S RACE AND ETHNICITY INFORMATION; AND~~

~~(2) ENCOURAGE AN APPLICANT TO PROVIDE RACE AND ETHNICITY INFORMATION ON THE APPLICATION.~~

(B) THE BOARD MAY NOT USE ANY RACE OR ETHNICITY INFORMATION INCLUDED ON AN APPLICATION FOR THE ISSUANCE OF A LICENSE OR LICENSE RENEWAL AS A FACTOR IN DETERMINING WHETHER TO ISSUE OR RENEW THE LICENSE.

11-2607.

ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 15 EACH YEAR, THE BOARD SHALL REPORT TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ON THE RACIAL BREAKDOWN OF THE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE BOARD IN THE PRECEDING CALENDAR YEAR.

~~11-2802.~~

~~(a) [The Board may impose a fine not exceeding \$2,500 or suspend a license or both for] FOR a violation that is cause for license suspension under the alcoholic beverage laws affecting the county, THE BOARD MAY:~~

~~(1) FOR A FIRST OFFENSE, IMPOSE A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000;~~

~~(2) FOR A SECOND OFFENSE IN THE SAME 24 MONTH PERIOD, IMPOSE A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$2,000 OR SUSPEND THE LICENSE OR BOTH; AND~~

~~(3) FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE IN THE SAME 24 MONTH PERIOD, IMPOSE A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$2,500 OR SUSPEND THE LICENSE OR BOTH.~~

~~(b) A fine or suspension under subsection (a) of this section is in addition to any term or condition that the Board may impose as a result of the violation.~~

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

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.