

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2025 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**First Reader**

Senate Bill 50 (Senator Simonaire)  
Education, Energy, and the Environment

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**Local Government - Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and  
Visitors Bureau Designation**

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This bill updates obsolete references in the Local Government Article relating to the Anne Arundel County hotel tax by changing the reference from the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and Visitors Bureau to Visit Annapolis and Anne Arundel County, Inc.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** None.

**Local Effect:** The bill is not expected to materially affect Anne Arundel County finances or operations.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:**

*Hotel Tax Distribution*

Anne Arundel County imposes an 8% hotel tax. From any revenue generated in the City of Annapolis from the hotel tax, Anne Arundel County must distribute: (1) 3% to the Annapolis Art in Public Places Commission; (2) 3% to the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County; (3) 17% to the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference

and Visitors Bureau; and (4) 3% to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund to be used only for housing assistance payments.

From the county's share of revenue from the hotel tax, Anne Arundel County must distribute 3% to the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County and 17% to the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and Visitors Bureau.

### *Hotel Tax Use Report*

By November 1 of each year, the Arts Council of Anne Arundel County and the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and Visitors Bureau must provide a report on their use of the hotel tax revenue to the following individuals: (1) the Anne Arundel County Executive; (2) the Annapolis Mayor and city council; (3) members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and House Ways and Means Committee; and (4) members of the General Assembly representing Anne Arundel County.

The Anne Arundel County Auditor is authorized to audit the financial records of the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and Visitors Bureau, among other organizations. If the Annapolis and Anne Arundel County Conference and Visitors Bureau fails to submit its annual report or correct any findings of the county auditor, the City of Annapolis or Anne Arundel County may withhold dedicated appropriations from the hotel tax.

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## **Additional Information**

**Recent Prior Introductions:** Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

**Designated Cross File:** HB 469 (Delegate Nkongolo) - Environment and Transportation.

**Information Source(s):** Anne Arundel County; City of Annapolis; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - January 19, 2025  
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Analysis by: Kayvon Samadani

Direct Inquiries to:  
(410) 946-5510  
(301) 970-5510