

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

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

House Bill 1401  
Judiciary

(Calvert County Delegation)

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**Calvert County Commissioners - Prohibited Gatherings and Events**

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This bill allows the Calvert County Commissioners to authorize, by ordinance, the county attorney or the county's State's Attorney to prohibit a future event or gathering if the event or gathering has a substantial likelihood of creating a nuisance or a disturbance of the peaceful enjoyment of private or public property. The bill further authorizes the county to establish penalties and enforcement provisions for a violation of a prohibition issued in accordance with an ordinance adopted by the county. **The bill takes effect June 1, 2025.**

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** The bill does not materially affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** The bill does not materially affect Calvert County operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

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**Analysis**

**Current Law:** Under § 10-201 of the Criminal Law Article, a person may not:

- willfully and without lawful purpose obstruct or hinder the free passage of another in a public place or on a public conveyance;
- willfully act in a disorderly manner that disturbs the public peace; or
- willfully fail to obey a reasonable and lawful order that a law enforcement officer makes to prevent a disturbance to the public peace.

A person who enters the land or premises of another, whether an owner or lessee, or a beach adjacent to residential riparian property, may not willfully (1) disturb the peace of persons on the land, premises, or beach by making an unreasonably loud noise or (2) act in a disorderly manner.

A person from any location may not, by making an unreasonably loud noise, willfully disturb the peace of another: (1) on the other's land or premises; (2) in a public place; or (3) on a public conveyance.

A person who violates § 10-201 of the Criminal Law Article is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for up to 60 days and/or a \$500 maximum fine.

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### **Additional Information**

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

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Calvert County; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 10, 2025  
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