

SB0279/323923/1

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 279
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 3, strike “**Local Laws Authorization**” and substitute “**Enforcement and Licensure**”; in line 4, strike “Baltimore City to enact and enforce local laws” and substitute “a certain enforcement officer to enforce provisions”; in line 6, strike “, subject to certain exceptions” and substitute “; authorizing the Executive Director of the Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission to reprimand a licensee or suspend or revoke a license for a violation identified under this Act; requiring an applicant for a certain initial or renewal license to request a licensure authorization from the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City”; and strike in their entirety lines 9 through 13, inclusive, and substitute:

“BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Business Regulation

Section 16–102, 16–302, 16–308.2, 16.5–102, 16.5–203(b), 16.7–102, and 16.7–202(b)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article - Business Regulation

Section 16–302.1, 16.5–201.1, and 16.7–201.1

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 17 on page 1 through line 12 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

“16–102.

(A) The Executive Director may delegate any power or duty of the Executive Director under this title.

(B) (1) IN BALTIMORE CITY, AN ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE TOBACCO USE PREVENTION AND CESSATION PROGRAM IN THE BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MAY ENFORCE THIS TITLE, INCLUDING BY ENTERING AND INSPECTING, AT A REASONABLE TIME, THE PREMISES OF A COUNTY LICENSE HOLDER.

(2) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 16–307 OF THIS TITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REPRIMAND A LICENSEE OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE FOR A VIOLATION IDENTIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

16–302.

(a) For each county license, an applicant shall:

- (1) submit an application to the clerk; and
- (2) pay to the clerk a license fee of \$300.

(b) (1) From each license fee collected under subsection (a) of this section, the clerk shall distribute:

- (i) \$25 to the Executive Director;
- (ii) in Montgomery County, \$275 to the county to be used to enforce existing laws banning the sale or distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, or

electronic smoking devices, as defined in § 16.7–101 of this article, to individuals under the age of 21 years; and

(iii) in all other counties, \$275 to the Maryland Department of Health to be used by the Department or its designee to enforce existing laws prohibiting the sale or distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, or electronic smoking devices, as defined in § 16.7–101 of this article, to individuals under the age of 21 years.

(2) Funds distributed under paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection may not be used to supplant existing funding for the enforcement of laws banning the sale or distribution of tobacco or tobacco products to individuals under the age of 21 years.

(C) IN BALTIMORE CITY, IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE CLERK A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION ISSUED UNDER § 16–302.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

16–302.1

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE CITY.

(B) BEFORE A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE UNDER THIS TITLE, THE PERSON SHALL REQUEST A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY.

(C) THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY MAY ESTABLISH A PROCESS TO ACCEPT AND APPROVE OR DENY LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUESTS MADE UNDER THIS SECTION AND §§ 16.5–201.1 AND 16.7–202.1 OF THIS ARTICLE.

(D) IF A PROCESS IS ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY SHALL INCLUDE AS PART OF THE PROCESS:

(1) A REQUIREMENT THAT AN APPLICANT IS:

(I) IN COMPLIANCE WITH ALL RELEVANT STATE AND LOCAL LAWS; AND

(II) OTHERWISE ENTITLED TO BE LICENSED; AND

(2) A MECHANISM FOR INCLUDING THE BASIS FOR ANY DENIAL OF A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUEST THAT IS REFERRED TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

(D) IF AN APPLICANT IS DENIED A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REVIEW THE BASIS FOR THE DENIAL.

16-308.2.

(a) In this section, “unpackaged cigarette” means any cigarette not contained in a sealed package of 20 or more cigarettes that are designed and intended to be sold as a unit.

(b) This section applies only in Baltimore City.

(c) A person who holds a county license may not sell an unpackaged cigarette.

(d) (1) An enforcement officer of the Tobacco Use Prevention and Cessation Program in the Baltimore City Health Department may enforce this section by entering and inspecting, at a reasonable time, the premises of a county license holder.

(2) An enforcement officer shall report a violation of this section to a State's Attorney.

(3) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 16-307 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REPRIMAND A LICENSEE OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE FOR A VIOLATION IDENTIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(e) Issuance of a citation by the Comptroller or the Executive Director for a violation of § 16-215 of this title precludes a prosecution for a violation under this section arising out of the same incident.

16.5-102.

(A) The Executive Director may delegate any power or duty of the Executive Director.

(B) (1) IN BALTIMORE CITY, AN ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE TOBACCO USE PREVENTION AND CESSATION PROGRAM IN THE BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MAY ENFORCE THIS TITLE, INCLUDING BY ENTERING AND INSPECTING, AT A REASONABLE TIME, THE PREMISES OF A COUNTY LICENSE HOLDER.

(2) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 16.5-209 OF THIS TITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REPRIMAND A LICENSEE OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE FOR A VIOLATION IDENTIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(Over)

16.5-201.1

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE CITY.

(B) BEFORE A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE UNDER THIS TITLE, THE PERSON SHALL REQUEST A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY.

(C) IF AN APPLICANT IS DENIED A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REVIEW THE BASIS FOR THE DENIAL.

16.5-203.

(b) (1) An applicant for a license to act as an other tobacco products retailer or a tobacconist:

(i) shall obtain a county license by submitting to the clerk an application for each permanent or temporary place of business located in the same enclosure and operated by the same applicant; and

(ii) except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, shall pay to the clerk a fee of \$15.

(2) A person who has a license issued under Title 16 of this article to act as a cigarette retailer or to act as a special cigarette retailer is not required to pay the license fee.

(3) The application shall:

- (i) be made on the form that the clerk requires; and
- (ii) contain the information that the Executive Director requires.

(4) IN BALTIMORE CITY, IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SECTION, AN APPLICANT FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE CLERK A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION ISSUED UNDER § 16.5–201.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.

16.7–102.

(a) The Executive Director may delegate any power or duty of the Executive Director under this title.

(b) **(1) IN BALTIMORE CITY, AN ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE TOBACCO USE PREVENTION AND CESSATION PROGRAM IN THE BALTIMORE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT MAY ENFORCE THIS TITLE, INCLUDING BY ENTERING AND INSPECTING, AT A REASONABLE TIME, THE PREMISES OF A COUNTY LICENSE HOLDER.**

(2) SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 16.7–208 OF THIS TITLE, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REPRIMAND A LICENSEE OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE A LICENSE FOR A VIOLATION IDENTIFIED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(c) Any person licensed under Title 16 or Title 16.5 of this article, or an affiliate, as defined under § 16–402(c) of this article, of a person licensed under Title 16 of this article:

(1) is authorized to manufacture, distribute, or sell electronic smoking devices pursuant to this title in the same capacity as the person is licensed under Title 16 or Title 16.5 of this article; and

(2) may not be required to obtain an additional license under this title.

16.7-201.1

(A) THIS SECTION APPLIES ONLY IN BALTIMORE CITY.

(B) BEFORE A PERSON MAY APPLY FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE UNDER THIS TITLE, THE PERSON SHALL REQUEST A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE CITY.

(C) IF AN APPLICANT IS DENIED A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION REQUESTED UNDER THIS SECTION, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MAY REVIEW THE BASIS FOR THE DENIAL.

16.7-202.

(b) (1) An applicant for a license to act as an electronic smoking devices retailer or a vape shop vendor:

(i) shall obtain a county license by submitting to the clerk an application for each permanent or temporary place of business located in the same enclosure and operated by the same applicant; and

(ii) except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, shall pay to the clerk a fee of \$300.

(2) The application shall:

- (i) be made on the form that the clerk requires; and
- (ii) contain the information that the Executive Director requires.

(3) (i) From each license fee collected under this subsection, the clerk shall distribute:

- 1. \$25 to the Executive Director; and
- 2. \$275 to the Maryland Department of Health to be used by the Department or its designee to enforce existing laws prohibiting the sale or distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, or electronic smoking devices, as defined in § 16.7–101 of this title, to individuals under the age of 21 years.

(ii) Funds distributed under this subsection may not be used to supplant existing funding for the enforcement of laws banning the sale or distribution of tobacco, tobacco products, or electronic smoking devices to individuals under the age of 21 years.

(4) IN BALTIMORE CITY, IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN APPLICANT FOR AN INITIAL OR RENEWAL COUNTY LICENSE SHALL PROVIDE TO THE CLERK A LICENSURE AUTHORIZATION ISSUED UNDER § 16.7–201.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE.”

On page 2, in line 13, after “That” insert “the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore City may not issue a licensure authorization under § 16–302.1, § 16.5–201.1, or § 16.7–201.1 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, for an initial licensure applicant between October 1, 2026, and October 1, 2027, both inclusive.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That”.