

SENATE BILL 398

A2

6lr2550
CF HB 874

By: **Anne Arundel County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 20, 2026

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; requiring the Governor to appoint members to the Board from
5 a list of individuals recommended by the Anne Arundel County delegations to the
6 General Assembly; altering the eligibility requirements for Board membership;
7 requiring the Board to adopt and publish a certain ethics policy; and generally
8 relating to the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
10 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
11 Section 11–102
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

14 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
15 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
16 Section 11–202(a) and (b)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

19 BY adding to
20 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
21 Section 11–210
22 Annotated Code of Maryland

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.



(2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3)(I) OF THIS SUBSECTION, 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, **SUBJECT
TO THE ADVICE AND CONSENT OF THE SENATE WHEN THE SENATE NEXT CONVENES.**

**(3) (I) THE GOVERNOR SHALL APPOINT THE MEMBERS OF THE
BOARD FROM A LIST OF INDIVIDUALS RECOMMENDED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
COUNTY HOUSE AND SENATE DELEGATIONS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

**(II) THE GOVERNOR MAY REQUEST A NEW LIST OF
RECOMMENDATIONS UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH AT ANY TIME.**

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

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

(ii) 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.**

11–210.

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

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the initial terms of the two
5 additional members of the Board of License Commissioners for Anne Arundel County, as
6 enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall begin May 2, 2027.

7 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
8 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.