

SENATE BILL 400

A2

6lr1617
CF HB 519

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 – Alcoholic Beverages – Entertainment Permits**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the titles of certain entertainment permits for certain alcoholic
4 beverages license holders in Anne Arundel County; altering the authorized forms of
5 entertainment that certain entertainment permit holders in the county may provide;
6 adding a certain zoning requirement for residential property applicable to certain
7 entertainment permit holders in the county; and generally relating to alcoholic
8 beverages entertainment permits in 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 11–1102(a), (b), (c), and (d)
17 Annotated Code of Maryland
18 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

21 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

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.



1 11-102.

2 This title applies only in Anne Arundel County.

3 11-1102.

4 (a) (1) On the premises, or on adjacent property over which a license holder
5 has ownership or control, a license holder:

6 (i) may allow piped-in background music or one television screen;
7 but

8 (ii) unless issued a permit described in this section that authorizes
9 the activity, may not allow:

- 10 1. the playing of music, including live music;
11 2. the operation of a karaoke machine;
12 3. the playing of music by a disc jockey; or
13 4. [dancing,] floor shows[,] or any other similar type of
14 entertainment.

15 (2) The Board may issue a permit described in this section only if the Board
16 finds that:

17 (i) the applicant can control the individuals using the licensed
18 premises;

19 (ii) the operation of the premises under the permit will not unduly
20 disturb the peace of the residents of the neighborhood in which the place of business is
21 located; and

22 (iii) the issuing of the permit:

- 23 1. is necessary to accommodate the public;
24 2. will not be detrimental to the public welfare; and
25 3. will not violate a county fire, health, or building
26 regulation.

27 (b) (1) There is a [music] **BACKGROUND ENTERTAINMENT** permit.

1 (2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of a Class B license, a Class
2 BLX license, a Class D license, or a Class H license.

3 (3) The permit authorizes the playing of:

4 (I) MORE THAN ONE TELEVISION; AND

5 (II) recorded music or [live music with not more than two musicians]
6 PIPED-IN BACKGROUND MUSIC.

7 (4) The permit holder may not allow [dancing,] floor shows[,] or similar
8 live entertainment.

9 (5) The annual permit fee is \$100.

10 (c) (1) There is [an] A GENERAL entertainment permit.

11 (2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of a Class B license, a Class
12 BLX license, a Class D license, or a Class H license.

13 (3) The permit authorizes:

14 (i) THE HOLDER TO PROVIDE THE ENTERTAINMENT ALLOWED
15 UNDER A BACKGROUND ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT;

16 (II) live music with not more than four musicians; and

17 [(ii)] (III) the playing of:

18 1. [more than one television] TRIVIA GAMES;

19 2. a karaoke machine; and

20 3. music by a disc jockey.

21 (4) (I) The permit holder may not allow [dancing,] floor shows[,] or
22 similar live entertainment.

23 (II) IF THE ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER PARAGRAPH
24 (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION WILL OCCUR OUTSIDE, THE AREA USED FOR THE EVENT
25 SHALL BE AT LEAST 100 FEET FROM ANY RESIDENTIALLY ZONED PROPERTY.

26 (5) The annual permit fees are:

27 (i) \$200 for a holder of a beer and wine license; and

1 (ii) \$300 for a holder of a beer, wine, and liquor license.

2 (d) (1) There is a [dancing] FULL ENTERTAINMENT permit.

3 (2) The Board may issue the permit to a holder of:

4 (i) a Class B license;

5 (ii) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, a Class
6 BLX license;

7 (iii) a Class C license;

8 (iv) a Class D license; or

9 (v) except as provided in paragraph (4) of this subsection, a Class H
10 license.

11 (3) The permit authorizes the holder to provide:

12 (I) THE ENTERTAINMENT ALLOWED UNDER A GENERAL
13 ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT; AND

14 (II) music, [dancing] A PERMANENT DANCE FLOOR, A STAGE
15 AREA, FLOOR SHOWS, and other legal forms of entertainment.

16 (4) (i) The Board may not issue the permit to a holder of a Class BLX
17 license or a Class H license if the premises for which the Class BLX license or Class H
18 license is issued is within 1,000 feet in a straight line from entry to entry from a place of
19 worship or school.

20 (ii) Notwithstanding subparagraph (i) of this paragraph, the Board
21 may issue the permit to the holder of a Class H license if the licensed premises is located
22 within 1,000 feet in a straight line from entry to entry from a school located at the Annapolis
23 Mall.

24 (III) IF THE ENTERTAINMENT AUTHORIZED UNDER PARAGRAPH
25 (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION WILL OCCUR OUTSIDE, THE AREA USED FOR THE EVENT
26 SHALL BE AT LEAST 100 FEET FROM ANY RESIDENTIALLY ZONED PROPERTY.

27 (5) The annual permit fees are:

28 (i) \$200 for a holder of a beer and wine license;

29 (ii) \$400 for a holder of a beer, wine, and liquor license; and

1 (iii) no charge for a holder of a Class C license.

2 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
3 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.