

SENATE BILL 897

A2

6lr1722
CF HB 664

By: **Cecil County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 20, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County – Alcoholic Beverages – Alteration of License Quota**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the quota on the number of alcoholic beverages licenses that
4 the Board of License Commissioners for Cecil County may issue to apply only to
5 Class A licenses based on a certain ratio; and generally relating to alcoholic
6 beverages in Cecil County.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
8 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
9 Section 17–102
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
13 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
14 Section 17–1601
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

19 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

20 17–102.

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 This title applies only in Cecil County.

2 17-1601.

3 (a) (1) ~~Subject to paragraph (2)~~ **EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2)**
4 **OF THIS SUBSECTION AND SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (3)** of this subsection, the Board
5 may not issue a number of **CLASS A** licenses that, in the aggregate, exceeds 1 for every
6 **[400] ~~1,200~~ 2,000** registered voters or major fraction in the county, as determined by the
7 current registration of voters.

8 **(2) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE NOT FEWER THAN 2 CLASS A LICENSES IN**
9 **EACH ELECTION DISTRICT OF THE COUNTY.**

10 ~~(2)~~ **(3)** [A Class BLX beer, wine, and liquor restaurant license, Class C club
11 license, motel-restaurant complex license, hotel-restaurant complex license, or Class GC
12 (golf course) beer, wine, and liquor (on-sale) license] **NO OTHER CLASS OF LICENSE** may
13 **[not]** be counted in the computation of the aggregate number of licenses.

14 (b) The quota shall be computed and applied separately for each election district
15 of the county.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
17 1, 2026.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.