

# SENATE BILL 972

A2

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By: **Senator Hayes**

Introduced and read first time: February 14, 2026

Assigned to: Rules

Re-referred to: Finance, February 22, 2026

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 2, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Baltimore City – 40th Alcoholic Beverages District – ~~Class B Beer, Wine, and~~**  
3 **~~Liquor Licenses~~ Authorizations and Revisions**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Baltimore City to  
5 issue Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses for certain locations in the 40th alcoholic  
6 beverages district, subject to certain limitations; prohibiting certain license holders  
7 in a certain area of the 40th alcoholic beverages district from selling alcoholic  
8 beverages at certain times of day; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages  
9 licenses in Baltimore City.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
11 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
12 Section 12-102  
13 Annotated Code of Maryland  
14 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
16 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis  
17 Section ~~12-1603(e)(25) and (26)~~ 12-1603(c)(13), (25), and (26) and 12-2005(d)  
18 Annotated Code of Maryland  
19 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

20 BY adding to  
21 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis

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### 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 Section 12–1603(c)(27) and (28)  
2 Annotated Code of Maryland  
3 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

6 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

7 12–102.

8 This title applies only in Baltimore City.

9 12–1603.

10 (c) The Board may issue:

11 (13) [if the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the  
12 Bolton Hill Community Association,] a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license in the 1200  
13 block of Eutaw Place in the 40th alcoholic beverages district IF:

14 (I) THE APPLICANT EXECUTES A MEMORANDUM OF  
15 UNDERSTANDING WITH THE BOLTON HILL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION; AND

16 (II) THE BOARD WAIVES ANY REQUIREMENTS THAT SALES MAY  
17 BE MADE ONLY TO MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF MEMBERS;

18 (25) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant on the even  
19 side of the unit block of South Carrollton Avenue in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if:

20 (i) the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the  
21 Hollins Roundhouse Association; and

22 (ii) the Board waives the minimum seating requirement under item  
23 (1)(ii)2 of this subsection; [and]

24 (26) a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license on the odd side of the 800 block  
25 of North Howard Street in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if:

26 (i) the applicant does not convert the license to a different license  
27 class;

28 (ii) the applicant does not transfer the license to a different location;

29 (iii) alcoholic beverages are served only to patrons indoors;

1 (iv) alcoholic beverages sales begin not earlier than 10 a.m. and end  
2 not later than 9 p.m.;

3 (v) the applicant provides not more than two 12-ounce offerings of  
4 beer, two 6-ounce offerings of wine by the glass, or two 1.5-ounce offerings of liquor for  
5 on-premises consumption by a patron while the patron is provided a barbering service  
6 regulated under Title 4, Subtitle 5 of the Business Occupations and Professions Article;

7 (vi) the Board waives any requirements that sales can be made only  
8 to members and the guests of members; and

9 (vii) the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the  
10 Mount Vernon – Belvedere Association;

11 **(27) A CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE FOR A RESTAURANT**  
12 **ON THE ODD SIDE OF THE 1000 BLOCK OF WEST BALTIMORE STREET IN THE 40TH**  
13 **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT IF:**

14 **(I) THE APPLICANT EXECUTES A MEMORANDUM OF**  
15 **UNDERSTANDING WITH THE HOLLINS ROUNDHOUSE ASSOCIATION;**

16 **(II) THE APPLICANT DOES NOT TRANSFER THE LICENSE TO A**  
17 **DIFFERENT LOCATION OR TO ANOTHER PERSON; AND**

18 **(III) THE BOARD WAIVES THE MINIMUM SEATING REQUIREMENT**  
19 **UNDER ITEM (1)(II)2 OF THIS SUBSECTION; AND**

20 **(28) A CLASS B BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE FOR A RESTAURANT**  
21 **ON THE EVEN SIDE OF THE 800 BLOCK OF NORTH CHARLES STREET IN THE 40TH**  
22 **ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DISTRICT IF:**

23 **(I) THE APPLICANT EXECUTES A MEMORANDUM OF**  
24 **UNDERSTANDING WITH THE MOUNT VERNON – BELVEDERE ASSOCIATION; AND**

25 **(II) THE BOARD WAIVES THE MINIMUM SEATING REQUIREMENT**  
26 **UNDER ITEM (1)(II)2 OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

27 12-2005.

28 (d) (1) This subsection does not apply to:

29 (i) a Class B beer and light wine (restaurant) license;

30 (ii) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor (restaurant) license issued under  
31 § 12-1603(c)(1)(ii) of this title;

- 1                   (iii) a Class B–BWL (H–M) license;  
 2                   (iv) a Class C beer and wine license;  
 3                   (v) a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license;  
 4                   (vi) an arena license;  
 5                   (vii) a marketplace license; or  
 6                   (viii) a Class M–F (municipal family fun center) license.

7                   (2) For a license holder in the 40th alcoholic beverages district, the hours  
 8 of sale for alcoholic beverages may not begin before 10 a.m. or end after 10 p.m.:

9                   (i) within an area bounded:

10                   1. from the intersection of Reisterstown Road and Quantico  
 11 Avenue, northwest on Reisterstown Road to the intersection with Wylie Avenue, northeast  
 12 on Wylie Avenue to the intersection with Pimlico Road, northwest on Pimlico Road to the  
 13 intersection with Dupont Avenue, east on Dupont Avenue to the intersection with Pall Mall  
 14 Road, southeast on Pall Mall Road to the intersection with Edgecombe Circle North, east  
 15 on Edgecombe Circle North to the intersection with Finney Avenue, south on Finney  
 16 Avenue to the intersection with Oakford Avenue, west on Oakford Avenue to the  
 17 intersection with Pall Mall Road, southeast on Pall Mall Road to the intersection with  
 18 Loyola Northway, southwest on Loyola Northway to the intersection with Pimlico Road,  
 19 southeast on Pimlico Road to the intersection with Quantico Avenue, and southwest on  
 20 Quantico Avenue to the intersection with Reisterstown Road; and

21                   2. from the intersection of [Millington Avenue] **BRUNSWICK**  
 22 **STREET** with Wilkens Avenue, northwest on [Millington Avenue] **BRUNSWICK STREET**  
 23 to the intersection with Frederick Avenue, northeast on Frederick Avenue to the  
 24 intersection with [West Pratt Street] **SOUTH FRANKLINTOWN ROAD, NORTHWEST ON**  
 25 **SOUTH FRANKLINTOWN ROAD TO THE INTERSECTION WITH HOLLINS STREET,** east  
 26 on [West Pratt Street] **HOLLINS STREET** to the intersection with South Mount Street,  
 27 south on South Mount Street to the intersection with Eagle Street, southwest on Eagle  
 28 Street to the intersection with South Smallwood Street, northwest on South Smallwood  
 29 Street to the intersection with Wilkens Avenue, and southwest on **THE EVEN SIDE OF**  
 30 **Wilkens Avenue to the intersection with [Millington Avenue] **BRUNSWICK STREET;****

31                   (ii) within the area of West North Avenue between the 1000 block of  
 32 West North Avenue and the 3200 block of West North Avenue, inclusive;

33                   (iii) for a license holder within 250 yards in any direction of the area  
 34 described in item (ii) of this paragraph; and

1                   (iv) within an area bounded as follows: from the intersection of North  
2 Fulton Avenue with North Avenue, north on North Fulton Avenue to the intersection with  
3 Pennsylvania Avenue, northeast on North Fulton Avenue to the intersection with Druid  
4 Hill Avenue, southeast on Druid Hill Avenue to the intersection with Mosher Street,  
5 southwest on Mosher Street to the intersection with North Carey Street, north on North  
6 Carey Street to the intersection with North Avenue, and west on North Avenue to the  
7 intersection with North Fulton Avenue.

8           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July  
9 1, 2026.

Approved:

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Governor.

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President of the Senate.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.