

SENATE BILL 1002

A2

6lr3728
CF 6lr3668

By: **Prince George's County Senators**

Introduced and read first time: February 24, 2026

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Class AER (Equity Retail)**
3 **License**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing a Class AER (equity retail) beer, wine, and liquor license
5 in Prince George's County; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for
6 Prince George's County to issue the license to an applicant that is certified as a
7 minority business enterprise by the county for use only in certain areas of the county,
8 subject to certain requirements; limiting the number of Class AER licenses that the
9 Board may issue; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages licenses in Prince
10 George's County.

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
12 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
13 Section 26–102
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 BY adding to
17 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
18 Section 26–901.1
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

23 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

24 26–102.

25 This title applies only in Prince George's County.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **26-901.1.**

2 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "SOCIALY AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED
3 INDIVIDUAL" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 10A-101 OF THE PRINCE GEORGE'S
4 COUNTY CODE.

5 (B) THERE IS A CLASS AER (EQUITY RETAIL) BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR
6 LICENSE.

7 (C) (1) THE LICENSE AUTHORIZES THE LICENSE HOLDER TO SELL BEER,
8 WINE, AND LIQUOR AT RETAIL AT THE PLACE DESCRIBED IN THE LICENSE.

9 (2) THE LICENSE HOLDER SHALL SELL BEER, WINE, OR LIQUOR IN A
10 SEALED PACKAGE OR CONTAINER THAT MAY NOT BE OPENED OR ITS CONTENTS
11 CONSUMED ON THE LICENSED PREMISES.

12 (D) THE LICENSE MAY BE ISSUED ONLY:

13 (1) TO AN APPLICANT THAT IS CERTIFIED AS A MINORITY BUSINESS
14 ENTERPRISE BY THE COUNTY; AND

15 (2) FOR USE AT AN ESTABLISHMENT THAT:

16 (I) IS LOCATED:

17 1. OUTSIDE THE CAPITAL BELTWAY; AND

18 2. AT LEAST 1 MILE AWAY FROM ANY OTHER
19 ESTABLISHMENT THAT HOLDS A CLASS A BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE;

20 (II) HAS A MINIMUM CAPITAL INVESTMENT OF \$200,000
21 TOWARD THE DEVELOPMENT, ACQUISITION, OR BUILD-OUT OF THE LICENSED
22 PREMISES; AND

23 (III) FEATURES AND MAINTAINS A MEANINGFUL INVENTORY OF
24 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE BRANDS THAT WERE FOUNDED BY, OR ARE UNDER
25 OWNERSHIP BY A MAJORITY OF, SOCIALY AND ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED
26 INDIVIDUALS.

27 (E) AN ESTABLISHMENT LICENSED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE OWNED
28 AND UNDER THE OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF A CERTIFIED MINORITY BUSINESS
29 ENTERPRISE FOR THE DURATION OF THE LICENSE.

1 **(F) IN ADDITION TO THE REQUIREMENTS UNDER SUBSECTIONS (D) AND (E)**
2 **OF THIS SECTION, A LICENSE UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE ISSUED FOR A**
3 **DRUGSTORE UNLESS THE APPLICANT:**

4 **(1) HAS BEEN DOING BUSINESS AT THE LOCATION APPLIED FOR IN**
5 **THE LICENSE FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR BEFORE THE DATE OF THE APPLICATION FOR**
6 **THE LICENSE;**

7 **(2) IS THE ASSIGNEE OF A BUSINESS ESTABLISHED FOR AT LEAST 1**
8 **YEAR BEFORE THE DATE OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE LICENSE AT THE LOCATION**
9 **APPLIED FOR; OR**

10 **(3) HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN THE RETAIL DRUG BUSINESS FOR AT**
11 **LEAST 3 YEARS.**

12 **(G) THE BOARD MAY NOT ISSUE MORE THAN:**

13 **(1) 2 LICENSES UNDER THIS SECTION PER YEAR; AND**

14 **(2) A TOTAL OF 10 LICENSES UNDER THIS SECTION.**

15 **(H) THE LICENSE HOLDER MAY SELL BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR DURING THE**
16 **HOURS AND DAYS AS SET OUT FOR A CLASS A BEER, WINE, AND LIQUOR LICENSE**
17 **UNDER § 26-2004 OF THIS TITLE, SUBJECT TO COUNTY USE AND OCCUPANCY LAWS**
18 **FOR HOURS OF OPERATION.**

19 **(I) THE BOARD MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS SECTION.**

20 **(J) THE ANNUAL LICENSE FEE IS \$910.**

21 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July**
22 **1, 2026.**