HB 512

Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Enrolled

House Bill 512 (Delegate Pruski)
Government, Labor, and Elections — Finance

Anne Arundel County - Board of License Commissioners and Part-Time Inspectors - Compensation

This bill increases the annual salary of the chair of the Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners from a maximum of $18,000 to at least $21,240, increases the annual salary of other board members from a maximum of $15,000 to at least $17,700, and increases the salary of part-time inspectors from $7,000 to at least $8,260. The bill requires salaries to include any cost-of-living increase available to nonrepresented county employees, and specifies the salary of the deputy chief inspector must be at least $18,000. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County salary expenditures increase by at least $33,716 annually beginning in FY 2027. Anne Arundel County revenues are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Maryland's 23 counties, Baltimore City, and the City of Annapolis all have boards of license commissioners who issue and enforce retail alcoholic beverages licenses in their jurisdictions.

The Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners has three members, appointed by the Governor. If the Senate is in session, they are appointed with the advice and consent of the Senate as well. Each member of the board must be (1) a resident and voter of the county and (2) an individual of high character, integrity, and recognized business capacity. No more than two members of the board may be of the same political party. The Governor also designates a chair from among the members of the board.

The chair of the board must receive an annual salary up to $18,000, and all other board members must receive an annual salary up to $15,000. All members also receive reimbursement for reasonably incurred expenses.

The board is authorized to employ a part-time deputy chief inspector at an annual salary of $18,000, and 18 part-time inspectors at salaries of $7,000 each. Inspectors also receive a monthly $300 expense allowance. In enforcing alcoholic beverages laws in Anne Arundel County, an inspector has all the powers of a peace officer or sheriff and may serve a summons and issue a civil citation for a license violation, as specified.

Local Expenditures: Anne Arundel County advises expenditures increase by at least $33,716 annually beginning in fiscal 2027. This estimate reflects salary increases for the board chair ($3,240 increase), two board members ($2,700 increase per member), and 18 part-time inspectors ($1,260 increase per inspector). This estimate does not include a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA), as the county advises that the COLA for fiscal 2027 will be established through the county budget process. County expenditures increase further to at least $34,390 in fiscal 2028 and $36,495 in fiscal 2031, assuming a 2% COLA each year.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: SB 401 (Anne Arundel County Senators) - Finance.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - February 12, 2026
jg/tso Third Reader - March 24, 2026
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