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Anne Arundel County

—  
Economic Matters Committee

*Subcommittees*

Alcoholic Beverages

Chair, Unemployment Insurance

—  
*House Chair*

Joint Committee on

Unemployment Insurance Oversight

—  
*Chair*

Anne Arundel County Delegation



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**THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

**House Bill 285**

**Anne Arundel County – Alcohol Beverages - Board Meeting**

Cross-file: SB 163

**SPONSOR TESTIMONY**

House Economic Matters Committee, February 17, 2020

Chairman Davis, Vice Chair Dumais and fellow members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to present **House Bill 285**.

This bill requires the Anne Arundel County Board of Alcoholic Beverages to be transparent, by setting timelines for publishing agendas and minutes:

- Agenda to be published at least one week in advance of a meeting
- Minutes of open meetings to be published no later than one month after the meeting

This bill also requires the Board to make available to the public live stream video and audio during all open meetings. .

Following these standards allows the public access to the information in a timely manner, so they are aware of what is occurring that may affect them, and allowing them the opportunity to respond.

The Fiscal Note refers to a potential significant expenditure by the County. We have heard from the County that they will be conducting the meetings in a facility that is already equipped for video and audio streaming, so they will not have to purchase equipment for this purpose.

**I respectfully request a favorable vote for HB 285.**