



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

ROCKVILLE: 240-777-6550

ANNAPOLIS: 240-777-8270

HB 1229

DATE: February 17, 2025

SPONSOR: Montgomery County Delegation

ASSIGNED TO: Economic Matters

CONTACT PERSON: Melanie Wenger (melanie.wenger@montgomerycountymd.gov)

POSITION: Support

Montgomery County – Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Health and Safety Regulations MC 21-25

As originally introduced, this bill requires the Montgomery County Board of License Commissioners to adopt regulations to: (1) gather information about the number and location of retail establishments licensed to sell alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption in the County; and (2) promote community public health and safety based on the impact of the density of these off-premises retail establishments. For retail establishments, the information referenced above must be collected each time a new license is issued or an existing license is renewed and must be considered by the Board when determining whether to authorize a new license or renew an existing license. House Bill 1229 also reconfirms the Board's authority to hear testimony related to the impact of issuing a license on the public health and safety based on the number of licenses issued.

Under current State law, a local licensing board is required to consider the impact of the license for which application is made on the public health and safety before a license may be issued or denied.

The Montgomery County House Delegation amendments replaced the original bill text with language that narrows the focus of the bill. The County supports the amended version of the bill.