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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401  
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY DELEGATION

**Testimony in Support of SB 442  
Anne Arundel County - Population Ratio Quota for  
Class A (Off-Sale) and Class D (Off-Sale) Licenses - Exemption**

Madam Chair, Mr. Vice Chair, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

SB 442 excludes an application filed on or after January 1, 2023, and approved by the Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners by June 30, 2025 from statute in Anne Arundel County that restricts the issuance of a Class A (off-sale) or Class D (off-sale) license to a business if it is located in an assessment district where the ratio of off-sale licenses exceeds one for every 3,500 individuals, or if the issuance of the license would cause the ratio to exceed one license per 3,500 individuals. The bill takes effect July 1, 2026, and terminates December 31, 2028, and only affects 3 licenses.

### **Background**

In the 2025 legislative session, SB 571 established a population ratio quota for certain Class A (off-sale) and Class D (off-sale) licenses in Anne Arundel County. Applicants whose licenses were approved by the Board of License Commissioners before July 1, 2025, but had not been picked up by the effective date, became subject to these restrictions.

### **Solution**

SB 442 creates an exemption to the population ratio quota for applications filed on or after January 1, 2023, and approved by the Board of License Commissioners before July 1, 2025.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no fiscal impact on the State. Anne Arundel County revenues increase by \$5,160 annually beginning in FY 2027. Anne Arundel County expenditures are not affected. There is minimal impact on small business.

## **Closing**

SB 442 is limited in scope, fiscally disciplined, and consistent with the intent of existing law. A letter of support has been submitted by the Anne Arundel County Senate Delegation.

For these reasons, I respectfully request a favorable report on SB 442.