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BOARD OF LICENSE COMMISSIONERS FOR ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Date: February 18, 2026

To: The Honorable Chair and Members
Senate Finance Committee

RE: Senate Bill 441 – Written Testimony (Support)

The Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners respectfully submits this written testimony in support of Senate Bill 441.

This legislation establishes license categories that better reflect recreation-focused business models that do not fit within the existing tavern or restaurant structure. It also supports the Board's ongoing effort to modernize the licensing framework so it can accommodate both current establishments and future applicants that have already expressed interest in these types of operations.

The enclosed summary provides the operational and fiscal details for the Committee's consideration, along with a list of eligible venues.

Respectfully submitted,

Edward I. Aronson
Executive Director
Board of License Commissioners
for Anne Arundel County

SENATE BILL 441: GOLF COURSE LICENSE AND SPORTS ACTIVITY VENUE LICENSES

SUBJECT: Establishment of "Golf Club" and "Sports/Activities Facility" Alcoholic Beverage Licenses

LEGISLATIVE INTENT: Currently, several establishments have been limited to apply for Class D (Tavern) or Class H (Restaurant) licenses because no other option existed. Consequently, they are subject to operational requirements that do not align with their actual business. These new classes will provide a license specifically designed for their business model.

PROPOSED LICENSE CLASSES:

1. Golf Club License (On-Sale Only)

- **Scope:** Establishes a license authorizing the sale of alcoholic beverages at smaller, public, or non-member golf courses within Anne Arundel County.
- **Justification:** The existing "Special Country Club" (SCC) license is overly restrictive, mandating membership, a minimum of nine holes, two tennis courts, and a swimming pool. These criteria effectively exclude public course operators from licensure.

2. Sports/Activities Facility License (On-Sale Only)

- **Scope:** Establishes a specific licensure category for recreational facilities, including but not limited to: gymnasiums, pickleball/tennis courts, bowling alleys, and golf simulator venues.
- **Justification:** These venues operate distinct business models focused on recreation rather than food service or tavern operations. A dedicated class ensures regulatory compliance tailored to the specific nature of the premises.

FISCAL IMPACT: The establishment of these license classes creates a more cost-effective "all-inclusive" structure for businesses. By incorporating Sunday sales and entertainment permissions directly into the base license, licensees save money by eliminating the need to purchase separate, additional permits. This streamlined approach allows previously misclassified venues to obtain proper licensure while providing a clear, simplified path for new applicants.

A list of eligible venues is attached for reference.

SENATE BILL 441– Potential Golf Course & Activity Venue Locations
Existing Licensed Businesses Eligible to Transition Under SB 441

Golf Courses & Simulators

Trade Name	Street Address	City	District
Compass Pointe Golf Course	9010 Ft. Smallwood Road	Pasadena	31
Bay Hills Golf	545 Bay Hills Drive	Arnold	33C
Severna Park Golf Center	1257 Ritchie Highway	Arnold	33C
Renditions Golf	1380 West Central Avenue	Davidsonville	33B
Under Par Golf	5478 Southern Maryland Blvd	Lothian	30B
X-Golf Annapolis	167 Y Jennifer Road	Annapolis	30A
X-Golf Pasadena	8048 Ritchie Hwy	Pasadena	31
Preserve at Eisenhower Golf Club	1576 Generals Highway	Crownsville	33B

Other Recreational Venues

Trade Name	Street Address	City	District
Severna Park Racquet & Fitness	8514 Veterans Highway	Millersville	31
Life Time Annapolis	200 Harker Place	Annapolis	30A
Southwest Concession (Bowling)	4991 Fairview Avenue	Linthicum	12B
Crofton Bowling Centre	2115 Priest Bridge Drive	Crofton	21
Skate Zone	1082 Route 3, South	Gambrills	21
Severna Park Bowling Lanes	840 Ritchie Highway	Severna Park	33C