

SB0442 Letter of Support.docx.pdf

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DAWN D. GILE
CHAIR



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

January 29, 2026

The Honorable Pamela Beidle
Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and Members of the Committee:

The Anne Arundel County Senators met and voted on January 29th, 2026, to support SB0442, Anne Arundel County - Population Ratio Quota for Class A (Off-Sale) and Class D (Off-Sale) Licenses - Exemption.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dawn D. Gile".

Dawn D. Gile
Chair, Anne Arundel County Senate Delegation

Sen. Gile Written Testimony_SB442.docx.pdf

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**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.

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CHAIRMAN

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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: Letter of Support – Senate Bill 442 – Population Ratio Quota for Class A (Off-Sale)
and Class D (Off-Sale) Licenses – Exemption**

On behalf of the Anne Arundel County Board of License Commissioners, I am writing to express our strong support for Senate Bill 442.

This legislation establishes a necessary exemption to the population ratio quota for Class A and Class D (off-sale) licenses. Specifically, it allows the Board to issue licenses for three specific applications that were filed on or after January 1, 2023, and approved by the Board before July 1, 2025.

The Board views this as a matter of fairness. These establishments have been working diligently to secure all necessary approvals so that the Board may effectuate their licenses. This bill ensures that their efforts and prior approvals are honored.

For these reasons, the Board respectfully requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 442.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman
Board of License Commissioners
for Anne Arundel County