

Chapter 566

(House Bill 1151)

AN ACT concerning

Howard County – Class A Alcoholic Beverages Licenses – Quota by Election District

Ho. Co. 02–21

FOR the purpose of ~~altering the quota system for Class A licenses in Howard County so as to limit the issuance of the licenses to not more than one for a certain number of residents in each election district, rather than in the county~~ authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Howard County to issue up to six Class A licenses in each election district in the county; authorizing the Board to issue more than six Class A licenses in each election district in the county under certain circumstances; providing for the application of this Act; making stylistic changes; and generally relating to Class A alcoholic beverages licenses in Howard County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 23–102
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2016 Volume and 2020 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Alcoholic Beverages
Section 23–1601
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2016 Volume and 2020 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Alcoholic Beverages

23–102.

This title applies only in Howard County.

23–1601.

(a) ~~Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, the Board may not issue more than one Class A license of any type for every 4,000 residents of [the county] EACH ELECTION DISTRICT, as determined by the latest federal census.~~

~~(b)~~ This section does not apply to a Class A license issued for use in an existing shopping center or in a proposed shopping center development for which a building permit has been issued that contains 200,000 or more square feet of commercial retail space.

(B) (1) THE BOARD MAY ISSUE UP TO SIX CLASS A LICENSES IN EACH ELECTION DISTRICT IN THE COUNTY.

(2) NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE BOARD MAY ISSUE MORE THAN SIX CLASS A LICENSES IN AN ELECTION DISTRICT, PROVIDED THAT THE TOTAL NUMBER OF CLASS A LICENSES IN ANY ELECTION DISTRICT DOES NOT EXCEED ONE CLASS A LICENSE OF ANY TYPE FOR EVERY 4,000 RESIDENTS OF THE ELECTION DISTRICT, AS DETERMINED BY THE LATEST FEDERAL CENSUS.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall be construed to apply only prospectively and may not be applied or interpreted to have any effect on or application to a Class A license issued before the effective date of this Act.

SECTION ~~2~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Enacted under Article II, § 17(c) of the Maryland Constitution, May 30, 2021.