

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

House Bill 571 (Delegate Kipke)
Economic Matters

**Anne Arundel County - Alcoholic Beverages - Class C (Veterans' Organization)
License - Event Permit**

This bill establishes an event permit in Anne Arundel County. The Anne Arundel Board of License Commissioners may issue the permit only to a holder of a Class C (veterans' organization) license. The permit authorizes its holder to sell alcoholic beverages (1) during an event held on the licensed premises; (2) to an individual attending the event, including attendees who are not members of the veterans' organization; and (3) for on-site consumption. The annual permit fee is \$100. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill only affects local government operations.

Local Effect: Anne Arundel County revenues increase to the extent event permits are issued to holders of Class C (veterans' organization) license holders. Anne Arundel County expenditures are not affected.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: Maryland's 23 counties, Baltimore City, and the City of Annapolis all have boards of license commissioners who issue and enforce retail alcoholic beverages licenses in their jurisdictions. Within each jurisdiction, the most common types of retail licenses are Class A, Class B, Class C, and Class D licenses. Each license authorizes the sale of alcoholic beverages in a different manner. Class C licenses authorize the sale of alcohol to members and guests at a club, for on-site consumption only.

Class C license holders in Anne Arundel County may sell beer, wine, and liquor Monday through Saturday from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. the following day. They may not sell beer, wine, or liquor after 2 a.m. on Sundays without a Sunday license. The board may issue a Sunday license to a Class C license holder, authorizing the sale of beer, wine, and liquor on Sunday according to the terms of that license.

Class C (veterans' organization) licenses can be issued by the board only to a local unit of a nationwide nonprofit organization or club that (1) is composed only of veterans of the U. S. Armed Forces; (2) has a charter from a national veterans' organization; (3) has a membership of at least 100 individuals and dues of at least \$5 per year per individual; and (4) operates for its members and meets in a clubhouse principally used by its members.

The annual license fee for a Class C (veterans' organization) license is \$400.

Anne Arundel County also issues one-day alcoholic beverages licenses that allow clubs, nonprofit organizations, and other specified groups to hold one-time events where alcoholic beverages are served or consumed. The fee for a one-day beer and wine license is \$25, and the fee for a one-day beer, wine, and liquor license is \$50.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Anne Arundel County; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 31, 2025
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