

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

Senate Bill 972

(Senator Hayes)

Finance

Government, Labor, and Elections

Baltimore City - 40th Alcoholic Beverages District - Authorizations and Revisions

This bill authorizes the Baltimore City Board of License Commissioners to issue, in the 40th alcoholic beverages district, (1) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant on the odd side of the 1000 block of West Baltimore Street if the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the Hollins Roundhouse Association, the applicant does not transfer the license to a different location or to another person and the board waives the minimum seating requirement of 75 individuals and (2) a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant on the even side of the 800 block of North Charles Street if the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the Mount Vernon-Belvedere Association and the board waives the minimum seating requirement of 75 individuals. The bill specifies that a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license in the 1200 block of Eutaw Place may be issued if the board waives any requirements that sales may be made only to members and guests of members. The bill also alters the boundary in which license holders in a specified area of the 40th alcoholic beverages district are authorized to sell alcoholic beverages from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect Baltimore City finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Generally, the board may not issue a new alcoholic beverages license in the 40th alcoholic beverages district. However, the board may issue a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license to a restaurant in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if the restaurant (1) has a minimum capital investment, not including the cost of land and buildings, of \$200,000 for restaurant facilities and (2) has a minimum seating capacity of 75 individuals. The annual license fee is \$2,060.

The board may issue a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license in the 1200 block of Eutaw Place in the 40th alcoholic beverages district if the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the Bolton Hill Community Association. The annual license fee is \$860.

Additional Information

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

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Baltimore City; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - March 10, 2026
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