

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2026 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 972
Finance

(Senator Hayes)

**Baltimore City - 40th Alcoholic Beverages District - Class B Beer, Wine, and
Liquor Licenses**

This bill authorizes the Baltimore City Board of License Commissioners to issue, in the 40th alcoholic beverages district, a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant on the odd side of the 1000 block of West Baltimore Street if (1) the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the Hollins Roundhouse Association; (2) the applicant does not transfer the license to a different location or to another person; and (3) the board waives the minimum seating requirement of 75 individuals. The bill also authorizes the board to issue, in the 40th alcoholic beverages district, a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license for a restaurant on the even side of the 800 block of North Charles Street if (1) the applicant executes a memorandum of understanding with the Mount Vernon-Belvedere Association and (2) the board waives the minimum seating requirement of 75 individuals. **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.

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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