

HOUSE BILL 1424

A1
HB 1366/16 – ECM

4lr2636

By: **Delegate Fraser–Hidalgo**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2024

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Alcoholic Beverages – Issuance of Class A Licenses**

3 FOR the purpose of clarifying that, with certain exceptions, not more than one license may
4 be issued in a single jurisdiction to an individual; increasing, subject to a certain
5 exception, the number of Class A alcoholic beverages licenses that may be issued in
6 the State to an individual for a certain use; and generally relating to Class A alcoholic
7 beverages licenses in the State.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
10 Section 4–203
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2016 Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

16 4–203.

17 (a) Except as otherwise provided in Division II of this article, Title 3, Title 4, or
18 Title 5 of this division, or subsection (b) of this section, more than one license may not be
19 issued **IN A SINGLE JURISDICTION**:

20 (1) to an individual; or

21 (2) for the use of a partnership, a corporation, an unincorporated
22 association, or a limited liability company.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(b) (1) A single individual may hold Class B beer, wine, and liquor licenses or Class BLX or equivalent licenses issued by different local licensing boards only for restaurants, hotels, or motels.

(2) The number of licenses that a single individual may hold is limited only by the cap imposed by each local licensing board on the licenses that the local licensing board issues.

(3) The licenses may be issued for the use of:

(i) the license holder; or

(ii) a partnership, a corporation, an unincorporated association, or a limited liability company.

(c) Except as otherwise provided in Division II of this article or Title 3, Title 4, or Title 5 of this division, an individual may not be issued in the State more than one [Class A,] Class C[, or Class D license for the use of:

(1) that individual; or

(2) a partnership, a corporation, an unincorporated association, or a limited liability company.

(D) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT BE ISSUED IN THE STATE MORE THAN FOUR CLASS A LICENSES FOR THE USE OF:

(I) THAT INDIVIDUAL; OR

(II) A PARTNERSHIP, A CORPORATION, AN UNINCORPORATED ASSOCIATION, OR A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY.

(2) NOT MORE THAN ONE CLASS A LICENSE MAY BE ISSUED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR AN ESTABLISHMENT THAT DERIVES LESS THAN 85% OF REVENUE FROM THE SALE OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2024.