

Chapter 417

**(House Bill 559)**

AN ACT concerning

**Carroll County – Alcoholic Beverages – Modification of Seating Requirements**

FOR the purpose of modifying the seating requirements for certain beer, wine, and liquor licenses in Carroll County; and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Carroll County.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
Article – Alcoholic Beverages  
Section 16–102, 16–902(a), 16–904(a), and 16–905(a)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2016 Volume and 2022 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Alcoholic Beverages  
Section 16–902(b), 16–904(b), and 16–905(b)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2016 Volume and 2022 Supplement)

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

**Article – Alcoholic Beverages**

16–102.

This title applies only in Carroll County.

16–902.

- (a) There is a Class B beer, wine, and liquor license.
- (b) The Board may issue the license for use by:

(1) a hotel that:

(i) accommodates the public by providing service ordinarily found in hotels;

(ii) has:

- 1. at least 25 rooms;

2. a lobby with registration and mail desk; and
  3. a dining room that serves full-course meals at least twice daily and that has regular seating at tables, [not] including **NOT MORE THAN 15** seats at bars or counters, for at least 50 individuals; and
    - (iii) is operated in facilities that are valued for State and local assessment and taxation at not less than \$50,000; or
- (2) a restaurant that:
- (i) is open for business at least 5 days a week and serves at least:
    1. two full-course meals each day it is open from Monday to Friday; and
    2. one full-course meal each day it is open on Saturday and Sunday;
  - (ii) has regular seating at tables, [not] including **NOT MORE THAN 15** seats at bars or counters, for at least 50 individuals; and
  - (iii) is operated in facilities that are valued for State and local assessment and taxation at not less than \$50,000.

16-904.

- (a) There is a Class BR beer, wine, and liquor license.
- (b) The Board may issue the license for use by a restaurant that:
  - (1) serves at least one full-course evening dinner meal at least 5 days a week;
  - (2) is only open during the time meals are served;
  - (3) has regular seating at tables, [not] including [seating] **NOT MORE THAN 15 SEATS** at bars and counters, for at least 50 individuals; and
  - (4) is operated in facilities valued for State and local assessment and taxation at not less than \$50,000.

16-905.

- (a) There is a Class C beer, wine, and liquor license.

- (b) (1) The Board may issue the license for use by a club that:
- (i) has a dining room;
  - (ii) has a regular seating capacity at tables, **[excluding] INCLUDING NOT MORE THAN 15** seats at bars or counters, for at least 50 individuals; and
  - (iii) operates in a facility with an assessed real property valuation of at least \$20,000.
- (2) The license authorizes the license holder to sell beer, wine, and liquor at a club, at the place described in the license, for on-premises consumption.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

**Approved by the Governor, May 3, 2023.**