

HOUSE BILL 843

A2, A3

4r2372
CF 4r2374

By: **Cecil County Delegation**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2024

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Cecil County – Board of License Commissioners – Inspections of Licensed**
3 **Cannabis Businesses**

4 FOR the purpose of authorizing an inspector employed by the Board of License
5 Commissioners for Cecil County to enter a licensed cannabis business for certain
6 observation purposes, provided that the inspector makes a certain announcement
7 and the inspector does not take any action against the licensee or an employee of the
8 licensee; and generally relating to inspections of cannabis businesses in Cecil
9 County.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
12 Section 17–102
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2016 Volume and 2023 Supplement)

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis
17 Section 17–205
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2016 Volume and 2023 Supplement)

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

22 **Article – Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis**

23 17–102.

24 This title applies only in Cecil County.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 17-205.

2 (a) (1) The Board may employ one full-time inspector and as many part-time
3 inspectors as the Board considers necessary.

4 (2) The employment of the inspectors is subject to the County Personnel
5 Policy and Procedure Manual.

6 (b) An individual may not accept appointment or continue as an inspector if the
7 individual or a member of the individual's immediate family has a personal or financial
8 interest directly or indirectly in a license or in a premises licensed under this article.

9 (c) An inspector:

10 (1) has all the powers of a peace officer or sheriff in the State arising out of
11 or relating to the enforcement of this article; and

12 (2) may serve a summons under § 17-2603 of this title.

13 (d) An inspector shall:

14 (1) investigate all applicants for a license or transfer of a license;

15 (2) visit and inspect at unannounced times every licensed premises in the
16 county at least once every 90 days;

17 (3) enforce all alcoholic beverages laws;

18 (4) investigate all violations of the alcoholic beverages laws and report
19 them to the Board; and

20 (5) submit monthly reports in writing to the Board of the inspector's
21 activities, setting forth complaints and listing violations that the inspector observed or were
22 reported to the inspector.

23 (e) **(1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, AN**
24 **INSPECTOR ACTING IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY MAY ENTER A PREMISES LICENSED**
25 **AS A CANNABIS BUSINESS UNDER TITLE 36, SUBTITLE 4 OF THIS ARTICLE FOR THE**
26 **PURPOSE OF OBSERVING WHETHER THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE LICENSE ARE**
27 **BEING MET.**

28 **(2) (I) ON ENTERING THE PREMISES, THE INSPECTOR SHALL**
29 **ANNOUNCE TO THE LICENSEE OR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE LICENSEE THAT THE**
30 **INSPECTOR IS ACTING IN AN OFFICIAL CAPACITY AND IS AUTHORIZED TO REMAIN**
31 **ON THE PREMISES.**

1 **(II) AN INSPECTOR ACTING IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS**
2 **SUBSECTION MAY NOT ISSUE A CITATION OR WARNING OR TAKE ANY OTHER ACTION**
3 **AGAINST THE LICENSEE OR AN EMPLOYEE OF THE LICENSEE.**

4 **(F)** An inspector shall take the oath required by Article I, § 9 of the Maryland
5 Constitution.

6 **[(f)] (G)** The salaries and travel expenses of the inspectors shall be established
7 by the County Commissioners using county personnel department regulations and
8 guidelines.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
10 1, 2024.