

(h) In Prince George's County, an application for an alcoholic beverage license shall not be considered prima facie evidence that the applicant or applicants are entitled to said license. Because of the limitation on licenses as set forth in subsection (a) of this section the burden of proof shall be upon the applicant or applicants to show to the board of licenses that the approval of the issuance of a license to said applicant or applicants is necessary for the accommodation of the public at the premises applied for. The limitations on licenses enumerated in subsection [(1)] (A) of this [article] SECTION may not be construed as the number of licenses the board is obligated to issue.

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(a) In the jurisdictions in which this section is applicable, within ten days from the date of the decision of the board of license commissioners and upon full payment of all the costs as hereinbefore in this subtitle provided, the decision of the boards of license commissioners in approving, suspending, revoking or restricting or refusing to approve, suspend, revoke or restrict any license, shall be subject to appeal to the State Appeal Board, by the applicant for any license, the licensee, or not less than ten citizens, voters and real estate owners, residing in the precinct or voting district in which the place of business is located or proposed to be located. Upon the filing of any such appeal, all papers and [and] testimony produced before the board of license commissioners shall be forwarded to the State Appeal Board within thirty days thereof upon the payment by the appellant or appellants, of all costs incident to the hearing before the board of license commissioners. Every such appeal shall be heard by all the State Appeal Board de novo; but said Appeal Board shall consider all the papers and testimony produced before the said boards. The noting of an appeal and payment of said costs shall stay the order of the board pending the determination of the appeal. It shall be the duty of the State Appeal Board to hear and determine all such appeals within thirty days from the date of the receipt of the papers and testimony from the board originally hearing the application, complaint or charges, and if the decision appealed from is reversed, the costs paid by the appellants shall be recoverable by the appellants from the appellees, in a civil action, and failure of the Appeal Board to determine the appeal within a period of thirty days, after the record has been filed as above provided, shall be considered an automatic affirmance of the local board's decision unless the time has been extended by the Appeal Board for a good cause shown.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland (as enacted by Chapter 775 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1980) be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows: