

(III) A license by way of renewal may not be approved without a hearing before such official if a protest has been filed against the granting of the new license at least 30 days before the expiration of the license for which renewal is sought.

(IV) This protest shall be:

[(i)] 1. [signed] SIGNED by not less than ten residents, COMMERCIAL TENANTS WHO ARE NOT HOLDERS OF OR APPLICANTS FOR ANY LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THIS ARTICLE, or real estate owners in the immediate vicinity in which the licensed place of business is located; or

[(ii)] 2. [instituted] INSTITUTED by the board of licensing commissioners on its own initiative.

(V) If the protest has been filed it shall be heard and determined as in the case of original applications, except in Baltimore City it shall be heard and determined not as in the case of original application in regard to zoning but only on a specific complaint as to the operation of the licensee's establishments.

(a-1) In Prince George's County, the procedures for the renewal of applications, protests, and hearings are provided in § 10-302 of this article.

10-302.

(g) (1) A protest against the renewal of a license may be filed with the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners.

(2) If a protest is filed, the license shall not be renewed without a hearing before the Board of License Commissioners.

(3) All protests shall be filed with the Board no later than March 1 of the year in which the license expires.

(4) The protest shall:

(i) Be signed by not less than 10 residents, COMMERCIAL TENANTS WHO ARE NOT HOLDERS OF OR APPLICANTS FOR ANY LICENSE ISSUED UNDER THIS ARTICLE, or real estate owners in the immediate vicinity in which the licensed place of business is located; [or]

(ii) Be instituted by the Board of License Commissioners on its own initiative; or

(iii) Be instituted by the municipality in which the licensed place of business is located subsequent to a public hearing being held by that municipality concerning the license renewal protest.

(5) The Board of License Commissioners shall hold a hearing on the protest as in the case of an original application.