

PROPOSED

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2026, Legislative Day No. 4

Bill No. 15-26

Introduced by Ms. Fiedler

By the County Council, February 17, 2026

Introduced and first read on February 17, 2026
Public Hearing set for March 16, 2026
Bill Expires on May 23, 2026

By Order: Kaley Schultze, Administrative Officer

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning: Zoning – Outdoor Lighting

2
3 FOR the purpose of requiring outdoor lighting in nonresidential zoning districts to be
4 directed toward the property and away from adjoining residential lots; and generally
5 relating to zoning.

6
7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments: §18-3-201(b)
8 Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)

9
10 SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland,*
11 That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) read as follows:

12 ARTICLE 18. ZONING

13 TITLE 3. OUTDOOR LIGHTING

14 18-3-201. Outdoor lighting.

15
16
17 (b) **Outdoor lighting in nonresidential zoning districts.** Outdoor light fixtures in
18 nonresidential zoning districts shall be:

19
20
21 (1) ~~[[located]]~~ LOCATED at least 25 feet from the boundary of any residential district,
22 except that the Office of Planning and Zoning may approve a lesser setback upon the filing
23 of an application that describes the type, location, lumen rating, and height of an outdoor
24 lighting fixture and the reasons why a lesser setback should be allowed. Potential reasons
25 for a lesser setback may include the following:
26

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law.
[[Brackets]] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Captions and taglines in **bold** in this bill are catchwords and are not law.

1 [[(1)] (I) fixtures will not be visible at any point along the boundaries of the lot
2 on which they are located due to the location of buildings or walls, topography, or similar
3 visual barriers;

4
5 [[(2)] (II) lighting will have minimal offsite impact due to the distance of the
6 fixtures from roads and neighboring properties;

7
8 [[(3)] (III) fixtures will incorporate additional shielding or other features to
9 prevent offsite impact; or

10
11 [[(4)] (IV) lighting plans demonstrate other factors that will prevent glare and
12 light spillover[.]; AND

13
14 (2) ARRANGED TO DIRECT THE LIGHT DOWN TOWARD THE PROPERTY ON WHICH
15 THE LIGHT FIXTURE IS LOCATED AND AWAY FROM ADJOINING RESIDENTIAL LOTS OR
16 AIMED TO CONFINE THE LIGHT TO A SPECIFIC FEATURE, SUCH AS A PARKING LOT,
17 WALKWAY OR ENTRANCE.

18
19 SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days
20 from the date it becomes law.